













HISTORY  
OF  
CASS COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS.

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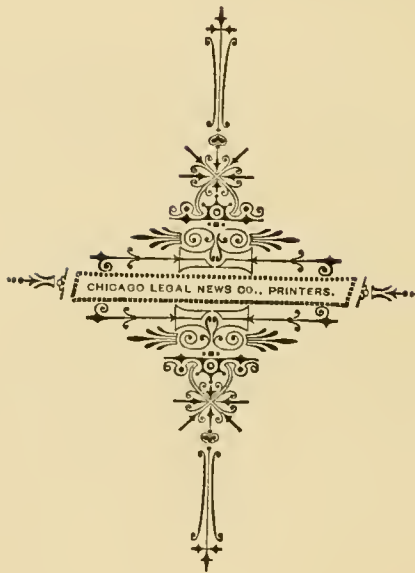
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## PREFACE.

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AFTER several months of laborious research and persistent toil, the history of Cass County is completed, and it is our hope and belief that no subject of general importance or interest has been overlooked or omitted, and even minor facts, when of sufficient note to be worthy of record, have been faithfully chronicled. In short, where protracted investigation promised results commensurate with the undertaking, matters not only of undoubted record, but legendary lore, have been brought into requisition. We are well aware of the fact that it is next to impossible to furnish a perfect history from the meager resources at the command of the historian under ordinary circumstances, but claim to have prepared a work fully up to the standard of our engagements. Through the courtesy and assistance generously afforded by the residents of Cass, we have been enabled to trace out and put into systematic shape the greater portions of the events that have transpired in the county, up to the present time, and we feel assured that all thoughtful persons interested in the matter will recognize and appreciate the importance of the work and its permanent value.

A dry statement of facts has been avoided, so far as it was possible to do so, and anecdote and incident has been interwoven with plain recital and statistics, thereby forming a narrative at once instructive and entertaining.

To those who have assisted our corps of writers in gathering material, or who have furnished, direct, matter incorporated in the work, our thanks are due, and to Hon. J. Henry Shaw and Judge Jno. A. Arenz, of Beardstown, we acknowledge special indebtedness.

SEPTEMBER, 1882.

THE PUBLISHERS.



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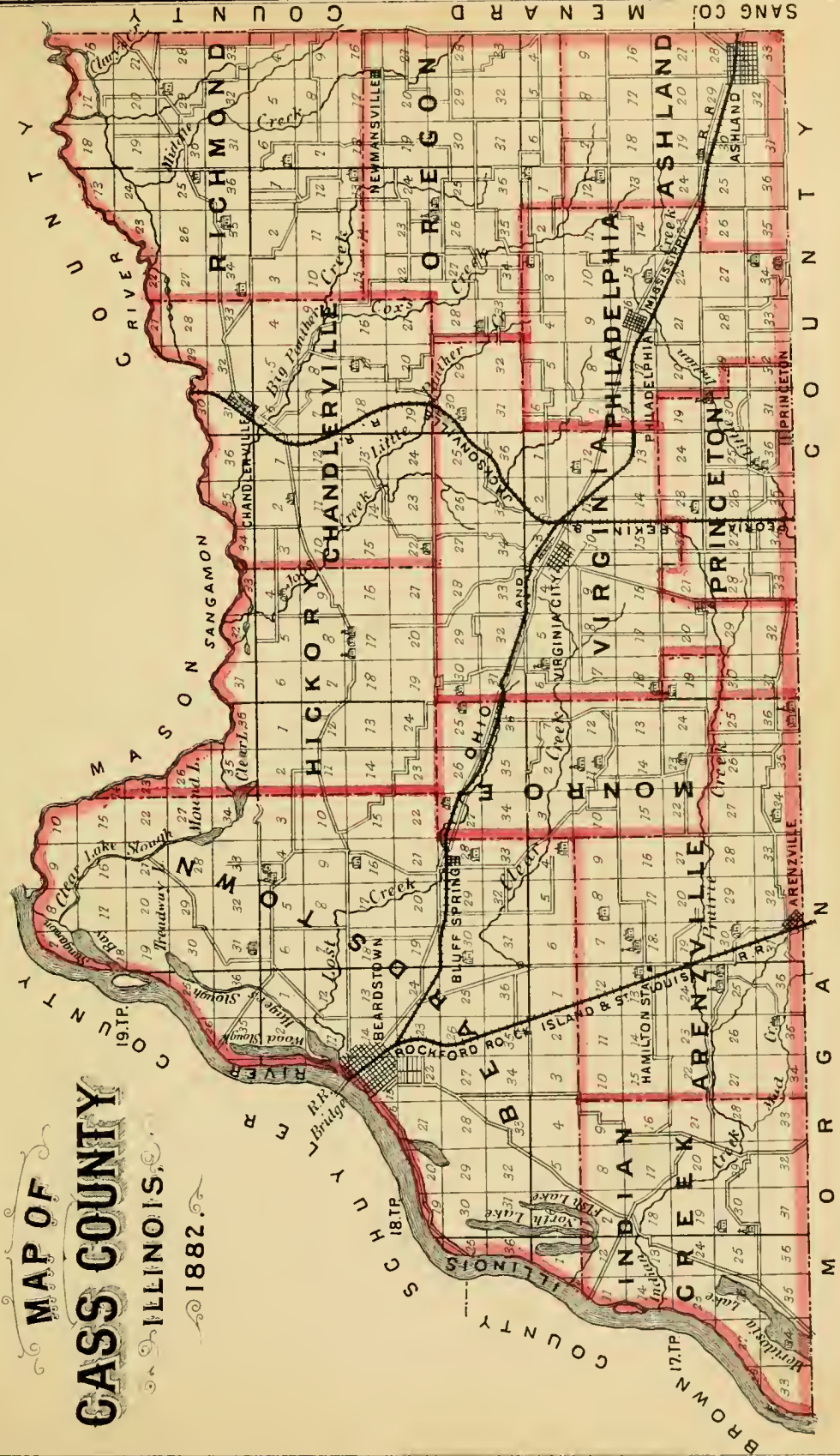
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MAP OF  
**CASS COUNTY,**  
 ILLINOIS.  
 1882.



SANGAMON COUNTY  
 RICHMOND  
 ASHLAND  
 HICKORY  
 PHILADELPHIA  
 PRINCETON  
 MORGAN  
 ARENZVILLE  
 OHIO  
 SANGAMON  
 BEARDSTOWN  
 ROCKFORD  
 ROCK ISLAND & STATION  
 HAMILTON STATION  
 INDIAN CREEK  
 ARENZVILLE  
 CLEAR LAKE  
 MOUND LAKE  
 NORTH LAKE  
 SOUTH LAKE  
 SANGAMON RIVER  
 BIG MUDDY RIVER  
 ROCK RIVER  
 MOCCASIN RIVER  
 LITTLE MUDDY CREEK  
 BIG MUDDY CREEK  
 ROCK CREEK  
 BRIDGE  
 RAILROAD



PART I.

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HISTORY

OF

CASS COUNTY.

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CHAPTER I.

CASS COUNTY\*—EARLY NOTES ON ILLINOIS—THE FRENCH TRAVELERS AND EXPLORERS—  
THE INDIANS—WARS OF THE IROQUOIS AND KICKAPOOS—LEGEND OF MON-  
SOELA—DIFFERENT OWNERS OF ILLINOIS—BEARDSTOWN MOUND  
—PURCHASE OF THE COUNTRY FROM THE INDIANS—  
MISCELLANEOUS, ETC.

ILLINOIS dates its white settlements among the first in North America. Four years prior to the settlement of Plymouth, Le Baron had explored Upper Canada, and twenty years later the hardy and ambitious French traders and voyageurs and zealous missionaries had erected trading posts and missions along the rivers and upon the lake shores, now within the jurisdiction of Illinois and Wisconsin.

At that period the surface of Illinois was much lower, geologically considered, than it is at the present time. Since its creation, the thin crust of the earth has been undergoing slow mutations, breathing, as it were, by centuries, elevating and depressing in the lapse of ages under the influence of its mighty lungs of fire, sinking slowly and imperceptibly beneath their former level continents and islands, and as gradually raising others above the waste of waters.

While the countries bordering upon the

Levantine seas have been gradually encroached upon by the water, there has been a corresponding rise in the earth's surface here. Two hundred years ago the white settlers of Illinois navigated the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to the great northern lakes. French pirogues and Indian canoes found no difficulty in passing through the portages of the North to Hudson's Bay. The routes from the Mississippi river—up the Wisconsin and down the Fox to Lake Michigan; and up the Illinois or "River of the Mianis," as it was then called, to Chicago river; or up the Kankakee and down the St. Joseph—were well known and navigated. Indeed, but a few centuries since, these rivers were the southern outlets for the waters of the great lakes, and the Illinois penitentiary, near Joliet, now stands upon a ledge of rocks over which a great river once flowed in rapids similar to those of the Upper Mississippi.

In the southern part of the State, at that point now known as Tower Rock, this great river was dammed up by a wall of rock, over

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\* The Chapters on the County at large are written for this work by Hon. J. Henry Shaw, of Beardstown.

which it fell one hundred feet, forming a cataract of such volume and height as to rival even Niagara. But the continual wearing power of the water, aided materially by earthquakes, which have left their sign in the vicinity, finally opened the present channel of the Mississippi, and gave an outlet to the ocean of waters that lay stagnating in the swamps, now prairies, above, and causing the present agricultural productiveness of the ancient beds of these great waters.

Two hundred years ago Northern and Central Illinois was inhabited by two powerful nations of Indians, the Illinois and the Miami. The latter occupied the northern part of the present State and part of Wisconsin, and their chief town was upon the present site of Chicago.

The Illinois tribe occupied the country bordering upon the Illinois river, called by the French the "River Seignelay," and all the country between that and the "River Colbert," or Mississippi.

The principal tribe of the Illinois were the Muscoteens, and their town was upon the present site of Beardstown, on the east bank of the river, at the foot of Muscooten Bay, and was called by the French the "Mound Village." The Peorias, another of the Illinois tribes, generally occupied that portion of the country between the rivers, having their town on the west bank of the Illinois river, four miles above the Muscooten village, upon the bluffs back of the present town of Frederick. The present site of Beardstown was at that time an island, surrounded on the north, east and south by almost impassable swamps, containing dangerous quicksands and quaking bogs, and which could be crossed only in canoes, or by Indians jumping from hillock to hillock of the turf grass with which these swamps were interspersed, and on the west by the Seignelay or Illinois River. The Indian town of the Muscoteens was a

beautiful place. It was built upon a series of mounds, covered with grass, and partially shaded by tall trees, which stood like sentinels upon the hills, or ornamental trees upon a lawn, so scattered as not to obstruct the view of the whole town from the river. The island had evidently been selected, not only on account of its natural beauty, but for its easy defense and safety from enemies.

By two bends in the river, forming two obtuse angles, the allied villages of the Peorias and the Muscoteens stood at the two elbows, in plain sight of each other, the broad river forming a straight sheet of water between, while north of the Mound Village, and in front of the Peorias, spread the wide and glassy surface of Muscooten Bay, separated from the river by a narrow peninsula. Back of the swamp which protected the rear of the town, was a wide belt of rich prairie bottom land, and beyond, six miles, loomed up the Sangamon Bluffs, looking like miniature Andes in the distance, between which and the island, in the day time, all approaching foes could be discerned.

This island town was a favorite resting place with the weary voyageurs and devout missionaries; a large cross was erected here, and friendly relations established between the "children of the forest" and the white men. This favoritism on the part of the French towards the Illinois Indians, excited the jealousy of the Miami, and they determined upon revenge. In vain did the missionaries try to prevent animosities. The Miami invaded the country of the Illinois, and took some prisoners.

At this time the Chevalier La Salle, who had built a fort called Creve Cœur, or the *Broken Heart*, where the present city of Peoria now stands, in order to prevent further hostilities, made a journey alone down the river to the Muscooten Village, but his efforts were without avail, and the war continued.



The Muscoteens believed that La Salle was acting as a spy for the Iroquois, whose chief town was then where Buffalo, N. Y., now is, and who were the most powerful Indian nation upon the continent. This impression seemed to be confirmed when it became known to them that the Iroquois and Miamis had formed an alliance for the purpose of exterminating them.

Many battles were fought between these hostile nations, but, by the superior numbers of their enemies, the Illinois were worsted and besieged in their towns. The Peorias fortified themselves with earthworks upon the bluffs at their village, and passed men down the river in canoes, as necessity required, to the Mound Village, or received help from there, the river being protected from the arrows of the enemy by marshy ground on one side and the bay on the other, which forbade their near approach.

The Muscoteens were besieged in their island town. Occasionally they were assailed by parties of their enemies, who, more courageous than their fellows, crossed the swamps in the night, on the grassy hillocks, with the help of poles. On these occasions fierce battles were fought, and none of the daring assailants survived to recross those trembling hillocks. At each defeat the Miamis and Iroquois became more enraged. In the night time, when out of danger from arrows, the allied Indians cut grass and small trees, and gathered floating wood, and built a causeway across a part of the swamp. When it was completed, with the aid of canoes disguised by branches of trees, in the night time, they rushed upon the island, and for several days the battle raged fiercely. There was no quarter given or asked. Death was dealt by unsparing hands on both sides. They had been rendered doubly savage by hunger and delay. Their revenge had long been at usury, and they were now satisfying principal and interest.

The battle at intervals temporarily subsided, but only when the combatants became exhausted, and was resumed when rest brought returning strength. Those who from fatigue were unable to rise, were scalped and tomahawked, entering from the dreamland of life to the dreamland of death.

At length, exhausted and overwhelmed by superior numbers, the Muscoteens began to fall back towards the river, when with yells of victory their allied enemies rushed upon them, and with tomahawks and scalping knives ended the battle. A few of the unfortunate Muscoteens swam the river, and concealed themselves until night in the high swamp grass beyond, and a small number of men, women and children fled in canoes to the village of the Peorias, and some were taken prisoners.

The battle being over, then came the mourning for the slain. Funeral rites, in which the missionaries took part, were performed, and in the great mound on the bank of the river, which had been raised centuries before by a long forgotten race, they buried the slain warriors with their bows, arrows and tomahawks, together with the silver and flint crosses of the missionaries.

After these ceremonies were concluded, the Iroquois returned to their own country. The Miamis, with their prisoners, encamped upon the present site of Chandlerville, where game was plenty, and attended to their sick and dying, great numbers of whom did not survive their wounds.

Those that died were buried in the bluffs near by, and long after the settlement of Chandlerville their ghastly skeletons lay in white rows, exposed to the sun, laid bare by the action of the wind upon their sandy covering.

Many years ago, at the request of a young friend, the writer put into verse and rhyme one of the incidents related above, which is as follows:

## THE LEGEND OF MONSOELA.

Far, far into the long ago, and upon the very place  
Where Beardstown stands, there lived and loved and  
died a noble race.

Where pretty lawns and spacious streets and lofty  
buildings stand,  
Monsoela's Indian village stood upon the hills of sand.

It was an island then, and round the hills on which it  
stood

The river ripples wandered in a long continuous flood;  
While over all the tall oaks waved in foliage bright  
and green,

And the trees and tents were mirror'd on the broad  
and glassy stream.

Far above the stars were shining, bathed in clouds of  
silv'ry light,

And the gentle breeze of summer-day had slumbered  
into night;

The murmur of the wavelets flowing, and hum of in-  
sect wings,

Fell lightly on the sleepers' ears, nor waked their  
slumberings.

Three weary moons two Indian tribes had been in  
deadly strife,

And Miamis and Muscutens had yielded many a life;  
Till the allies of the Muscutens had left them all  
alone,

And the Miamis besieged them upon their island home.

Slowly, at night, across the waters upon the southern  
side,

The Miamis were paddling up their canoes against the  
tide;

While in advance of every boat was held a branching  
bough,

Which from the gaze of watching eyes might shield  
the advancing prow.

Upon the island, faint and tired, the Muscutens lay at  
rest,

All witless of the coming foe as the flowers which  
they pressed;

They had fought them day by day, their watchfires  
burning night by night,

Until glimmered on their ashen beds the last faint  
rays of light.

Just as the distant glittering beams that led the morn-  
ing sun

Sat lightly on the yellow knobs of the bluffs of  
Sangamon,

A yell as of a thousand fiends fell on the startled  
ears,

And sleepers woke to sleep again pierced by the foe-  
mens' spears.

Monsoela then, Muscuten's Chief, raised high the  
battle cry,

And bade his warriors follow him and win the fight or  
die;

Now on the left, now on the right, his ponderous war-  
club fell,

And many an Indian skull crushed he, and stifled  
many a yell.

Now backward borne, now pressing on, Muscuten's  
wavering braves

Proved that the blood that nerved their arms was never  
meant for slaves;

'Till overpowered, and rank by rank fell weltering in  
their blood,

The brave Monsoela fought alone amidst the crimson  
flood.

Then the old chief's daughter, White Wing, ran  
through the rift of spears;

'Though gentle as a fawn, that day she showed no  
childish fears;

Pierced to the heart, into his arms she threw herself,  
a shield,

He grasped her lifeless form and slowly bore her from  
the field.

Where the golden grass was waving on the river's  
western shore,

Monsoela's hirschen shallop touched the flowery bank  
once more;

There oft before the same proud chief had pushed his  
light canoe,

With warriors in sinewy keels—three hundred brave  
and true.

Near two hundred years have entered into the dreamy  
past

Since the chief of the Muscutens on his village looked  
the last—

One longing, lingering look he gave toward his island  
home,

Then drew his mantle round him and wandered forth  
alone.

Some years later, Mound Island was taken  
possession of by the Kickapoo Indians, upon

which they built a village, known as "Kickapoo Town," although still remembered by the French Missionaries as the "Beautiful Mound Village." This became a favorite trading post and missionary station, and continued in the possession of the Kickapoos until its settlement by Thomas Beard, in 1820, after whom the present city of Beardstown was named.

A few years later the great mound in Beardstown began to be encroached upon by the spade and pickaxe of the avaricious white man. Still later, Horace Billings built upon its river front a huge mill, for the purpose of grinding corn, bolting it fine like wheat flour, kiln-drying, sacking it, and shipping it to Europe as bread stuff. This building was five stories high, a massive frame, and the mound was so excavated with winding roads that teams could be driven to three different stories, to load and unload.

This enterprise proved a ruinous failure. The drying process destroyed the vitality of the meal, and prevented its sale. The building was destroyed by fire. The earth, of which the mound was composed, and which is supposed to have been taken by its builders from the bottom of the river, was stolen away by wagon-loads to cover house lots and streets with, and its site was finally reduced to the level of the adjacent streets.

The decaying bones of the red warriors, as they lay in their quiet and lovely resting place, with the implements of war around them; the silver and flint crosses of the missionaries, even the beautiful mound itself, which as an ornament and historic feature to the town and river, should have been held sacred, could not restrain the money-making white man from destroying it, and it is now recollected only by the old settlers, who used to sit upon its summit and watch the passing away of the last of two races—the Indian in his canoe, and the French voyageur in his pirogue.

In 1700, Illinois was a part of the territory owned by the French government, and was called New France.

In 1720, all the country west of the Mississippi River belonged to Spain, with Santa Fe as its capital.

In 1763, Illinois was ceded by France to Great Britain, after a "seven year's war," Many French inhabitants, rather than live under British rule, joined La Clode and settled in St. Louis, then French territory.

In 1778, the Illinois country was conquered from Great Britain by troops from the State of Virginia, under the command of General George Rogers Clark, which was an independent military enterprise of that State; and on the 4th day of July of that year, General Clark and his troops took possession of Kaskaskia, the capital of the British possessions west of the Alleghenies, and declared the Illinois country free and independent of Great Britain, thus making the 4th day of July the natal day of this State as well as of the Nation. In that year, Illinois was created a county of Virginia, and Timothy Dermanbrun was appointed by the governor, Patrick Henry, a justice of the peace, to rule over it; which was probably the most extensive territorial jurisdiction that a magistrate ever had.

In 1794, the legislature of the Northwest Territory divided it into two counties, Randolph and St. Clair.

In 1809, Illinois was declared a separate territory.

In 1812, Madison County was organized from St. Clair, and then contained all of the present State north of St. Clair and Randolph.

In 1818, Illinois was admitted into the Union as the twenty-second State.

In 1821, Green County was formed from Madison County.

In 1823, Morgan County was formed from Green County, which included the territory now known as Cass County.

During the first quarter of the present century, immigration to the Illinois country was retarded by frequent earthquakes; indeed, from 1811 to 1813 they were as severe as ever happened on this continent, and the few settlers then here were in constant dread from these disturbances. New Madrid, a flourishing town near the mouth of the Ohio, was utterly destroyed and partially swallowed up. But in 1825, the Erie Canal was completed, and steamboats had been introduced upon the Mississippi and its tributaries, and immigration received a new impulse and flowed in vigorously. This immigration excitement was called east of the Alleghenies, the "western fever;" and it carried many a good man off—*west*.

Another circumstance which prevented immigration into central Illinois during the same period was, that all that portion of it that lay south of the Kankakee, east of the Illinois, west of the Wabash and north of a line drawn from the mouth of the Illinois eastward to the Wabash, including the present Cass County, was owned and in possession of the Kickapoos, a powerful and warlike tribe of Indians, who conquered this territory about the middle of the last century from the Illinois Indians. The Kickapoos, while friendly with the French, looked with extreme jealousy upon the Americans, and discouraged their settlement in this territory. This wide scope of country, included the best and most fruitful portions of Illinois, and pioneers were anxious for the general government to purchase it of the Kickapoos, and open it to settlement. Several efforts were made by the government to treat with them for their lands, but being of a haughty spirit, no satisfaction could be obtained from them, until Gen. Harrison defeated them at the battle of Tippecanoe, which so diminished their vanity that they sought to treat, but Gen. Harrison refused. Shortly afterward they were again defeated by Col. Zachary Taylor, and in Octo-

ber, 1812, Col. Russell defeated them at Kickapoo Town, on the Illinois River, the present site of Beardstown, and again, in November Col. Hopkins destroyed one of their towns on Wildeat Creek. They then sued for peace, and their chief, Little Otter, met Gen. Harrison. The treaties of Portage des Sioux (Sept. 2, 1815) and Fort Harrison (June 4, 1816), followed. These treaties being indefinite in their results, the Kickapoos still retaining their lands, many of them religiously believing and maintaining that they were granted them by the Great Spirit as their possession forever, and that he would be angry if they sold them; the following order was issued by the general government, addressed to Gov. Wm. Clark, Indian Superintendent at St. Louis, and to Gov. Ninian Edwards, Governor of the Territory of Illinois:

"DEPARTMENT OF WAR, NOV. 1, 1817.

"GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor to enclose you a commission, for the purpose of treating with the Illinois, the Kickapoos, the Pottawatomies and other tribes of Indians within the Illinois territory. The object of this negotiation is to obtain a cession from the tribes who may have a claim to it, of all that tract of land which lies between the most north-eastern point of boundary of the lands ceded by the Kaskaskias in August, 1803, the Sangamo and the Illinois rivers; and which tract of land completely divided the settled parts of the Illinois Territory from that part which lies between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers, and which has been lately surveyed for the purpose of satisfying the military land bounties, a circumstance which makes the acquisition of this tract of country peculiarly desirable.

"If either of the tribes who have a claim to the land is desirous of exchanging their claim for lands on the west of the Mississippi, you are authorized to make the exchange, and your extensive local knowledge of the coun-

try will enable you to designate that part of it where it would be most desirable to locate the lands to be given as an equivalent. To other tribes who may not wish to remove, you will allow such an annuity, for a fixed period, as you may deem an adequate compensation for the relinquishment of their respective claims. To enable you to give the usual presents on such occasions, you are authorized to draw on this department for \$6,000.

"The contractor will furnish, on the requisition of either of you, the rations that may be necessary for the supply of the Indians while attending the treaty. Your compensation will be at the rate of eight dollars per day for the time *actually* engaged in treating with the Indians; and that of the secretary, whom you are authorized to appoint, will be at the rate of five dollars a day.

"I have the honor to be, with great respect,

"Your obedient servant,

"GEORGE GRAHAM,

"Acting Secretary of War."

Under these instructions, such negotiations were had with the Kickapoo Indians, that on the 30th day of July, 1819, that tribe ceded to the United States all the above described tract of land. The final treaty was signed on

the part of the government by August Choteau and Benjamin Stevenson, and by twenty-three chiefs of the Kickapoos, who reluctantly placed their awkward but significant sign-manuals thereto. Among other things, and together with many presents and much ammunition, the United States agreed to pay them \$2,000 a year for fifteen years, and assigned them a large tract on the Osage. From the date of the treaty they began to remove from the State, but very slowly and reluctantly, and in 1822 there were still four hundred Kickapoos remaining in Central Illinois, and up to 1821, quite a large number of them remained within the present limits of Cass County, and at their town on the present site of Beardstown. A few of them, who had connected with the French by marriage, remained in Beardstown and on the islands near by, many years afterward.

This purchase from the Kickapoos, opened the most beautiful portion of the State to settlers. That part of it now included in the counties of Cass, Morgan, Scott, Mason, Menard, Sangamon, Logan, Macon and some others, was known far and near, as the "Sangamo Country," and its fertile soil soon attracted great numbers of actual settlers, who made farms, laid out towns, built roads and bridges.

## CHAPTER II.

SETTLEMENTS OF THE COUNTRY NOT INCLUDED IN CASS COUNTY—SOME OF THE PIONEERS AND WHERE THEY SETTLED—THE SANGAMO COUNTRY—ITS FERTILITY—PRAIRIE SCHOONERS—FIRST LAND ENTRY—BEARD'S FERRY—BEARD & MARSH'S ENTRY OF LAND—FIRST SETTLERS OF BEARDSTOWN—DEED OF DEFEASANCE—GOING TO EGYPT FOR CORN—AR-RIVAL OF OTHER SETTLERS—THE ENTRY OF LAND, ETC., ETC., ETC.

IN 1818 a man by the name of Pullam settled upon Horse Creek, a tributary of the Sangamon river, and later, in November of that year, Seymour Kellogg first settled the country afterward included in Morgan County, and it was at his house that the first white child of the Sangamo country was born.

The first actual and permanent white settler within the limits of the present city of Beardstown, was Thomas Beard, who came here on horseback when it was a Kickapoo town, in 1819, and made it his home as a trader among the Indians.

Martin L. Lindsley, together with his wife and two children, John C. and Mary A., and Timothy Harris and John Cettrough, settled in Beardstown in 1820, and afterward located in "Camp Hollow," a mile east of the present county farm, where Mr. Lindsley built a cabin, and the first white child born in this (afterward) Cass County, was added to his family.

During the year 1820, a family named Eggleston settled on the site of Beardstown.

Major Elijah Iles, now a resident of Springfield, Ill., landed in 1819 where Beardstown now is, on his way to the "Keeley Settlement," afterward named Calhoun, and now Springfield, the State capital. He says that at that time there was a hut at Beardstown, built of birchen poles, standing on the bank of the river, but unoccupied. As the Indians lived in tents, this hut was probably erected by the

French traders nearly a quarter of a century before the landing of Major Iles.

Archibald Job settled first at Beardstown, and then at Sylvan Grove, in the north edge of North Prairie, in the spring of 1821, surrounded by Kickapoo Indians.

There were other pioneers who temporarily settled here about that time, whose names we have not learned.

In 1821, there were but twenty white families within the present limits of Morgan, Cass and Scott Counties.

But when the reputation of the "Sangamo Country" for unrivaled fertility, and that the Indian title to it had become extinguished, and the lands would soon be surveyed and offered for sale by the government, had reached Kentucky and Tennessee, the sturdy and enterprising farmers of those States began to remove thereto in great numbers.

There was at that time in common use, a *craft* known as the "prairie ship," or as some called it the "prairie schooner," and nothing similar to it ever *floated* or moved in or upon or between the waters of the earth. It was constructed with four huge wheels, upon which was a great bed or box, formed like a quarter of a moon, with the bend hanging between the fore and aft wheels. The solid running gearing, well and fantastically ironed, the broad felloes heavily tired, the tongue arranged for a propelling power of either

horses or oxen, its high end-boards and curving side-boards, ribbed and barred and riveted, glaring in red or blue paint, was not gotten up merely for show. It made no pretensions to beauty. It was thoroughly a substantial craft. What has become of the old "prairie ship," with the four horses before it, and the driver in his saddle on the near wheel-horse, twitching at a single rein?

The old "prairie ship," with its great white cover and flapping curtains, looking at a distance on the prairie like a ship on the ocean, was the great original of the emigrant wagon of the West. This craft was of vast capacity. It contained ample bedding for a large family, made up of all ages and sexes. It held cooking utensils, provisions, ammunition, tubs, buckets, besides the family. The wagon box or bed was fitted with flat iron staples, about eighteen inches apart, along its sides, and in those were placed ashen hoops which bended over from side to side of the wagon box, leaving a roomy space inside about five feet high and twenty feet more or less long, which when covered with canvas, looped over at the ends, made a comfortable room, high, dry and safe from storms. Upon the sides of the wagon box were cleats to secure the crowbar, axes, spades, mattocks, chisels and augurs; and underneath hung the kettles, tar-bucket, water-bucket and baskets. An extra log-chain was coiled around the coupling pole under the wagon for use in emergencies, which frequently happened.

It was in these prairie schooners that most of the first settlers of Cass (then Morgan) County emigrated from the older States. These journeys were not altogether pleasure trips, although there were pleasant features connected with them, and they were usually terminated with every member of the family in robust health, sickness very rarely afflicting those who traveled in this way, yet they were sometimes attended with dangers, hardships and "hair-

breadth 'scapes," which were profitably recounted by the participants in after life to the rising generation. There were but few roads and bridges at that time, and the prairies had to be crossed on Indian trails, the rivers forded where there were no ferries, and the creeks and brooks, where the banks were steep, were still more difficult to cross. In such case, sometimes a bridge was improvised, or a tree was felled across it, the limbs removed, the wagons taken all apart, and each separate piece and article of freight carried by hand across over the fallen tree, and set up and loaded on the other side. Sometimes a single "mover" would do all, this alone. But, for convenience, these "movers" would sometimes travel in companies or caravans, and in that case assist each other, and thus make the journey much more pleasant, safe and expeditious. It was a common sight upon the Illinois prairies in those days to see such a caravan, the white canvas tops of the prairie schooners looking in the distance like a fleet at sea under sail. These emigrants generally drove along with them a few head of cattle, or led some brood mares, so that in the new country they were prepared to raise cattle and horses. Some also brought in a coop lashed to the wagon, a few fowls, for the purpose of raising chickens in the new home.

Let us suppose several of these prairie schooners, in the early "twenties," have reached the northern part of Morgan County (now Cass), and, enraptured with the view, unhitch the teams and look around. The land was surveyed and offered for sale by the government for the first time in November, 1823, so that all those who settled here previous to that date were only "squatters" on the public lands, waiting for the time to come when they could pre-empt or buy. Our imaginary immigrants, having looked around find there is a navigable river, the Illinois, a

few miles distant, which will insure them a future market for their produce. They find good, rich prairie land for their farms, and plenty of timber for housing and fencing. They conclude this will do. Having selected the tract of land that suits them, they go to some distant town for a surveyor, who comes and gives them the numbers and metes and bounds. They then make a weary journey on horseback of a hundred miles to Edwardsville, where the government land office is located, to enter or buy the land. Having secured the land—the family having domiciled in the wagon in the meantime—the men-folks proceed to build a log cabin, in the structure of which not a nail, or bit of iron or glass is used. The outside walls are made of round or hewn logs, fitted together at the ends and chinked with chips and clay between them. The floor is made of split logs. The roof is covered with rived weather-boards, kept in their places by poles laid across them. The chimney is made with logs and sticks and clay. The doors are made with split boards, fastened together with wooden pins, swung on wooden hinges, and fastened only with a wooden latch. Bedsteads are improvised of poles, and benches of split logs on sapling legs.

Thus the "first families" of Cass County started in life, and most of the great farms within its borders had such a beginning.

The first land "entry" (i. e. purchase from the government,) was made by Thomas Beard and Enoch C. March, jointly, upon the northeast quarter of Section 15, in Township 18, Range 12, September 23, 1826. It was upon this fractional quarter section that Mr. Beard's cabin was built. It was placed upon the steep bank of the river, at the present foot of State street, near where he afterward built his brick hotel. In the following spring it was discovered that this cabin had been built over a den of snakes, and thousands of them,

of many kinds, came out upon the opening of warm weather.

The first licensed ferry across the Illinois river was established June 5, 1826, by Thomas Beard, and a license was granted him by the county commissioners of Schuyler county, upon his paying six dollars per annum into the treasury of that county. That ferry is in operation yet by the assigns of the Beard heirs, at Beardstown, where it was first located. There was at that time no road from Beardstown through Schuyler county, but blazes on the trees was made out as far as where Rushville now stands. Schuyler county had been organized, and the county seat had been located near where Pleasant View now is, and, strangely enough, that was named Beardstown, too. Why this was so named, so soon after Thomas Beard had named his town, is now past finding out. But the location was soon after removed to Rushville, or Rush-ton, as it was first called.

Thomas Beard's ferry-boat was managed by himself alone, the propelling power being a pole in his strong hands. It was so small that only one wagon and two horses could be crossed at one time, and then very little standing room was left for passengers.

On the 28th day of October, 1827, Beard and March entered the northwest quarter of section 15, township 18, Range 12, which extended their river front down below the great mound.

Thomas Beard individually entered the west half of the southwest quarter of section 15, township 18, Range 12, October 10, 1827; and John Knight entered the east half of the southwest 15, 18, 12, July 17, 1828. Thus there were three men entered the entire section upon which the original town of Beardstown was located, in the years 1826, 1827 and 1828.

The original town of Beardstown consisted of twenty-three blocks, fronting on the river,



three tiers of blocks deep, reaching from Clay to Jackson streets, of which block ten, lying between the Park and Main street, and State and Washington, is the central one. It was laid out and platted by Enoch C. March and Thomas Beard, and acknowledged before Thomas B. Arnet, a justice of the peace of Jacksonville, Sept. 29, 1829, and is recorded on page 228 of Book B of the Morgan County Records, a transcript of which is in the Cass County Records.

Among the first settlers in Beardstown, after it became a town site, were Francis Arenz and Nathaniel Ware, who purchased an interest and became joint landed proprietors with Beard and March. The town was named after Thomas Beard.

The first deed from March and Beard upon record of lands within the present limits of Beardstown, was made before the town was laid out, and is dated August 21, 1828, to "Charles Robinson, of New Orleans," for the consideration of one hundred dollars, being for a "part of the fractional part of the northwest quarter of Section 15, Township 18, Range 12, beginning at a forked birch tree on the Illinois river bank, marked as a corner, running thence down the river meanders thereof, so as to make two hundred yards on a straight line, and from thence running out from the river at both ends of the above line by two parallel lines, until they strike the north line of the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 15, Township 18, Range 12, supposed to contain twelve acres.

Immediately following this deed upon the record is this singular "deed of defeasance," executed by Charles Robinson :

#### DEED OF DEFEASANCE.

"I having this day bought of Enoch C. March and Thomas Beard and his wife, Sarah, a piece of land on the river below the ferry of the above Beard, and have this day re-

ceived from them a deed for the same; I hereby declare that it is my intention to do a public business on the said land between this date and the first day of October, next year, and if I have not upon the land by that date, persons and property to effect the same, or actually upon the way to do so, I will return the above deed, and transfer back the land to them upon receiving the consideration given them for the same. The above public business means a steam mill, distillery, rope-walk or store. Witness my hand and seal, this 21st day of August, 1828.

"(Signed) Charles Robinson. [SEAL]"

The certificate upon this deed shows it to have been acknowledged August 1, 1828, before Dennis Rockwell, clerk of the circuit court of Morgan County; recorded June 29, 1829, in Book B of deeds, page 180. The land described in the deed from March and Beard to Robinson is part of the original town of Beardstown.

Mr. Charles Robinson, party to these deeds, now dead, was until recently a resident of Cass County, near Arenzville. On the 8th of February, 1872, he wrote a letter to the *Chicago Journal*, from which we make this extract:

"Fifty years ago, or in the summer of 1821, there was not a bushel of corn to be had in Central Illinois. My father settled in that year twenty-three miles west of Springfield. We had to live for a time on venison, blackberries and milk, while the men were gone to Egypt, to harvest and procure breadstuffs. The land we improved was surveyed that summer, and afterwards bought of the government, the money being raised by sending beeswax down the Illinois river to St. Louis, in an Indian canoe. Dressed deer skins and tanned hides were then in use, and we made one piece of cloth out of nettles instead of flax. Cotton matured well for a decade, until the deep snow of 1830."

The southern part of the State, referred to by Mr. Robinson as "Egypt," received this appellation, as here indicated, because, being older, longer and better settled and cultivated, it "gathered corn as the sand of the sea," and the immigrants of the central part of the State, after the manner of the children of Israel, in their want, "went thither to buy and bring from thence corn, that they might live and not die."

In the early years of the white settlements here, wheat was not to be had, and corn meal, the only bread-stuff, was exceedingly hard to obtain, as mills were scarce. Jarroe's Mill, on Cahokia Creek, was for a long time the only one accessible to our pioneers. In 1821, a small horse-mill was erected on Indian Creek by Richard Sheppard. Then a horse-mill was put up at Clary's Grove. Still later, Ogle's water mill was built on Indian Creek. To these mills the boys of the families had to make frequent and tedious journeys on horse-back, to procure corn meal for bread. The corn for this purpose had to be shelled by hand, as there were no corn-sheller machines then. Each boy could take but one sack, containing two or three bushels of corn. If the sack got misplaced on the horse, or fell off, the boy was in trouble, as he had not strength sufficient to replace it. For this reason, several boys of a neighborhood would club together in going to mill, and thus lighten their labors and responsibilities. When at the mill, the boys must wait their turn, and when great numbers were in before them, would have to frequently stay all night at the mill, and sometimes two days, depending upon parched corn for sustenance after their lunches, which they had brought with them, had become exhausted.

Reddick Horn, a Methodist preacher, settled at Beardstown in 1823, and entered lands near the bluffs; after Cass county was formed he became clerk of the circuit court.

The Cottonwood school house, in the Sangamon bottom, was built in 1830, and is still known by that name.

The exact date of the arrival of each of the settlers is very hard to obtain, as those of them now living differ in their recollections of those who have precedence; but, by taking a conspicuous event, as, for instance, the *deep snow*, which occurred in the winter of 1830-31, it becomes more easy to decide who then lived in the different neighborhoods. At the time of the deep snow, upon the Sangamon Bottom road there were the following named settlers: The first above Beardstown was Solomon Penny, in Section 10, 18, 11, where Richard Tink now lives. The next was John Wagoner, who lived where the Bottrell farm is now. Above him were the Carrs—Elisha, William and Benjamin—and their father; Elisha lived on the present Kendall farm. Next above the Carrs was Grandpa Horron. Then Jerry Bowen, where Calvin Wilson now lives. Next, the widow Stewart. Next, Shadrach Richardson, on the present Brauer farm. Then Thomas Plaster, Sr., where Jep'ha Plaster's farm is now.

These were all that then lived below where Chandlerville is now, on this road. The first above these was Robert Leeper, on the Cleph. Bowen place. Next, William Myers; next, Henry McHenry; and in their order above him were Peter Dick, John Taylor, William Morgan, James Hickey, Amos Ogden; and then Isham Reavis, who afterwards moved below Chandlerville. James McAuley and Elijah Garner settled in 1832.

Among the earliest settlers in the vicinity of Arenzville were Henry McKean, John McKean, Alexander Pitner, William Pitner, John Melone, William McHenry, James Davis, George Bristow, Aquilla Low, J. A. Arenz, Richard Matthews, Charles Robertson, James Crum, Christian Crum, Peter Hudson, Charles Wiggins, David Black, Alexander Huffman,

Benjamin Matthews, William Summers, Andrew Williams, and Richard Graves. Most of these persons came about 1830.

John, Stephen and Jasper Buck and John Shafer were also early settlers. John Savage came in 1823.

In 1830, there was a water-mill for grinding corn at Arenzville, where Engelbach's steam-mill now stands. The power was obtained by changing the channel of Indian Creek fully a quarter of a mile north from the bed where it now runs. There was formerly an ancient Indian town and burial place on Prairie Creek, about three miles north-east of Arenzville.

Among the first settlers in the centre of the county, near where Virginia now stands, were Captain Jacob Yapple, who set out the first apple orchard in the county; Henry Hopkins, Elijah Carver, Charles Brady, John De Webber, Thomas Hanby, John Dawsey, Samuel Way, William Weaver, Thomas Garton, Halsey Smith, a preacher named Chambers, and others. Some of these settled as soon as the lands were offered for sale by the government at the new land office at Springfield, others a few years later.

The next installment of settlers, ranging from 1826 to 1832, were James Stephenson and his five grown sons, Wesley, James, William, Robert and Augustus; Charles Beggs, Jacob and John Epler, John Hiler, Rev. John Biddlecome, Isaac Mitchell, William Kinner, Jesse Allred, Nathan Compton; John C., Peter and William Conover; and a widow Pratt, and her four sons—William, Charles, Rogers and Haramel. A school-house was built of logs in this neighborhood in 1829. Samuel Thompson built a horse mill in 1830. James Richardson built the first blacksmith shop in 1826. Peter Conover and Elizabeth Marshall were the first to marry here, which was in 1827. The southeast part of the county was settled early by James, Davis, who made an improvement on the

farm now owned by Travis Elmore, at the head of Little Indian Creek. He sold out to Strother Ball, and he to Isaac Bennett. Bennett sold to William Grove, who entered the land in 1826. Eli Cox settled here as early as 1820, in Cox's Grove, so named from him, and entered the land as soon as it came into market, in 1823. William Cooper, a negro with a white wife, settled here also; and Stephen Short, with his four sons, James Benjamin, George and Albert, Stephen Lee, Tilman Hornbuckle, and Dr. Stockton, settled in Panther Grove in 1830. John Miller, James Thompson and Daniel Blair settled near by on the prairie. Stephen Short was the first justice of the peace. Rev. William Crow, the first preacher.

Further north, on the east side of the county, among the first settlers were George and John Wilson, in 1824; William Daniels, in 1825; Bartlett Conyers, John Lucas, John B. Witty, and Robert Hawthorn, in 1826. The first child born in this neighborhood was Lucinda Daniels, in 1828. The first marriage was Miles Hamilton and Barbara Baeger. In the northeast part of the county, on and near the Sangamon Bottom, the first settlers were Amos Ogden, in 1830, who built a house of hewn logs in 1831, and rode three days to get eight men to help him raise it. The men who helped him were those other old settlers: Joseph Hickey, James Watkins, John Hickey, James Hickey, Isham Reavis, Daniel Aterbury, and a Mr. Mounts.

The first school-house was of logs, built on Amos Ogden's farm. The first blacksmith shop was owned by Matthew Holland in 1835. The first mill was a small specimen of a water-mill, owned by James Watkins in 1832.

The five Dick brothers, William Lynn and William P. Morgan, settled here in 1831; and Dr. Charles Chandler, Marcus Chandler and Mr. Inglis, in 1832. Dr. Chandler's cabin was in the centre of where the present town

of Chandlerville now is, where the first Congregational Church now stands, the land being subsequently donated by the doctor for that purpose. South of the Chandler settlement, on the Sangamon Bottom, were David Clopton, Robert Leeper, William Myers, Oliver Coyne, William McAuley and Mark Cooper, in 1831 and 1832. The first preaching there was by Rev. Levi Springer.

LIST OF ALL THOSE WHO ENTERED LAND.—  
The following is a list of those who entered land (i. e., bought from the government), within the present limits of Cass County, Ill., including the "three mile strip," before the deep snow in the winter of 1830-31; and in what township and in what year the entry was made. Where a person entered land in more than one township, his name is given for that tract only which he first entered.

18, 12, Thomas Beard.....1826	17, 11, Thomas Wiggins.....1829	19, 9, David McGinnis.....1830	17, 10, William Porter.....1826
" Enoch C. March.....1826	" George F. Miller.....1828	" Stephen Handy.....1830	" Jacob Lawrence.....1826
" John Knight.....1823	" Henry McKean.....1829	" Thos. Plaster.....1828	" Carrollton R. Gatto.....1826
17, 12, Freeman Skinner.....1830	" Daniel T. Matthews.....1828	" William Linn.....1830	" Thomas Gatto.....1826
" Kimball & Knapp.....1830	" John McKean.....1829	" Richard McDonald.....1829	" Archibald Job.....1826
" Asa C. New.....1830	" Daniel Richards.....1829	" Wilson Runyon.....1830	" Peter Conover.....1826
18, 11, Henry Summers.....1830	" John Cuppy.....1830	" William D. Leeper.....1830	" William Conover.....1826
" Richard Gaines.....1830	" Patrick Mullen.....1827	" William Myers.....1830	" Abner Tinnen.....1826
" John S. Warfield.....1830	" Shadrack Scott.....1828	" John Taylor.....1829	" Nathan Compton.....1826
" Robert Farrell.....1830	" Benjamin Matthews.....1827	" Elias Rogers.....1830	" Joseph T. Leonard.....1826
" John Farrell.....1830	" Samuel Grosong.....1826	" Jesse Armstrong.....1830	" Bazabel Gillett.....1830
" Temperance Baker.....1829	" William S. Hauby.....1826	18, 8, William Holmes.....1826	" George T. Bristow.....1826
17, 11, James Orchard.....1826	18, 10, John E. Scott.....1816	" John Lee.....1830	" William H. Johnson.....1830
" Oswell Thompson, Jr.....1830	" John De Weber.....1824	" Joseph Lee.....1830	" William Breeden.....1827
" Jos. L. Kirkpatrick.....1830	" A. S. West.....1826	" Robert Nance.....1830	" Peter Taylor.....1829
" Joseph C. Christy.....1829	" John Ray.....1826	" James Fletcher.....1829	" John Ream.....1830
" Frederick Troxel.....1828	" Joshua Crow.....1826	" John Hughes.....1827	" Samuel Way.....1828
" Peter Karges.....1830	" Benjamin Stribling.....1830	" Susanna Walker.....1824	" Archer Herndon.....1827
" David Black.....1829	" John G. Bergen.....1824	" Solomon Redman.....1826	" Evin Martin.....1827
" James Smart.....1827	" Phineas Underwood.....1826	" Henry Kittner.....1826	" James Sturges.....1827
" John R. Sparks.....1828	" Henry Madison.....1828	" Martin Hardie.....1827	" Jonathan Atherton.....1830
" Aquilla Low.....1827	17, 10, Jacob Yapple.....1824	" Josiah Flinn.....1826	17, 9, Burton Litton.....1830
" Abraham Gish.....1828	" Alexander D. Cox.....1826	" David Manchester.....1830	" Page A. Williams.....1826
" Charles Robertson.....1828	" Henry Madison.....1826	" William Miller.....1826	" Morris Davis.....1826
" Peter Taylor.....1827	" James Marshall.....1826	" Strother Ball.....1826	" Josiah Sims.....1826
" Martin Robertson.....1828	" Jesse Allred.....1826	" Samuel Montgomery.....1830	" Robert Fitzlugh.....1826
" James H. Richards.....1830	" Isaac Mitchell.....1829	18, 11, William W. Babb.....1829	" Jesse Gum.....1827
" Jonah H. Case.....1826	" Thomas Redman.....1824	" Elred Renshaw.....1830	" Thomas Atkinson.....1826
" Daniel R. Scaffer.....1829	" George Tureman.....1827	18, 11, Sam'l B. Crewdson.....1829	" John Vance.....1826
" Thomas Clark.....1831	" Edward Fuller.....1830	" Solomon Penny.....1828	" James Welsh.....1827
" David B. Carter.....1830	" Levi Springer.....1830	" Benjamin Carr.....1829	" Richard Jones.....1826
" James Davis.....1826	" William M. Clark.....1827	" Amos Hager.....1830	" James Fletcher.....1829
" Andrew Williams.....1827	" George Freeman.....1827	" Reddick Horn.....1826	" Andrew Beard.....1827
" Alexander Huffman.....1827	" Thomas Payne.....1830	" Elisha Carr.....1829	" John Bridges.....1826
" William Summers.....1827	" Lucian T. Bryant.....1830	" John Waggoner.....1829	" John Creel.....1827
" L. L. Case.....1826	" William Lamme.....1826	" James Scott.....1829	" Joseph McDonald.....1826
" John Savage.....1830	" Silas Freeman.....1828	17, 11, Alexander Pitner.....1829	" Gersham Jayne.....1829
" Dennis Rockwell.....1824	" Isaiah Paschall.....1828	" John Thompson.....1830	" Jonas McDonald.....1828
" Augustus Barber.....1826	" Littleberry Freeman.....1830	18, 10, William Myers.....1827	" Anthony M. Thomas.....1826
" Joseph P. Crowswait.....1830	" Silas Freeman.....1828	" Thomas Gatto.....1829	" Alexander Beard.....1829
		" James Mason.....1829	" John Robertson.....1829
		" Nathao Compton.....1828	" Felix French.....1829
		" John Robertson.....1828	" Richard A. Lane.....1830
		" Street & Bland.....1827	" John McDonald.....1828
		" Susan Washburn.....1827	19, 8, Isham Reavis.....1830
		" Henry Traugbber.....1826	" Robert Taylor.....1830
		" William McCord.....1830	" Wm. P. Morgan.....1830
		" Robert Alexander.....1829	18, 8, Samuel Reid.....1828
		" Ralph Morgan.....1830	" Robert Elkins.....1829
		" John Bidlecome.....1830	" Ralph Elkins.....1829
		" Zadoc W. Flynn.....1829	" Henry Williams.....1828
		" Peter Carr.....1828	" Eaton Nance.....1824
		" William Carr.....1825	" John Lucas.....1829
		" William D. Sturges.....1830	" Susan Washburne.....1828
		" Shadr'h Richardson.....1830	" David Williams.....1829
		" Robert H. Ivers.....1830	" Joel Ragsdale.....1829
		" Josiah Rees.....1830	17, 8, James B. Watson.....1826
		" Joseph Baker.....1829	" Wm. Cooper.....1826
		" Thomas Plaster.....1830	" Stephen Short.....1830
		" William Sewall.....1830	" Wm. Crow.....1826
		17, 10, William Chambers.....1826	" Lewis Farmer.....1830
		" John C. Conover.....1827	" Stephen Lee.....1830
		" Susanna Pratt.....1826	" Eli Cox.....1824
		" David Black.....1830	" Robert Johnson.....1824
		" James Marshall.....1826	" G. W. Wilson.....1829
		" Jacob Ward.....1829	" Wm. T. Hamilton.....1826

These make 212 persons who entered land in what is now Cass County, previous to the deep snow.

## CHAPTER III.

INCREASE OF POPULATION—THE DEEP SNOW OF 1830—THE BLACK HAWK WAR—RENDEZ-  
VOUS OF SOLDIERS AT BEARDSTOWN—CAUSE OF DR. CHANDLER'S SETTLEMENT—  
MEETING BETWEEN HIM AND ABRAHAM LINCOLN—BUSINESS OF BEARDS-  
TOWN IN 1834—THE EARLY LOG CABINS—YANKEES AND YANKEE  
TRICKS—CORN BREAD—ETC., ETC., ETC.

BY the year 1830, the population of the State had increased to 157,447, and was confined mostly to the borders of rivers and creeks and woodlands. As yet but few settlements had been made anywhere in the open prairies.

The early settlers were apprehensive of a future scarcity of wood, and carried their fears to such an extent, that much of their money was invested in useless woodland, which they needed to begin farming with. But their fears in this respect seems now to be allayed, as it has been shown that the supply increases rather than diminishes. Many of those who for the sake of a near and convenient supply of wood, settled in and along the borders of the timber-lands, got the poorest of the farm lands, and when they supposed all the good lands had been taken up, later settlers came in and entered the dry, rolling prairie lands, and thereby got the best farms, and were in no want for plenty of timber either.

The winter of 1830-31 was a remarkable one, and will always be remembered by old settlers as the most terrible for suffering with in their memories. The snow fell at first about thirty inches deep, then the weather settled, and another snow fell, and another, until it was from four to six feet deep. In drifts it was much deeper. Fences were covered and lanes filled up. There was much suffering everywhere. Stock died for want of food. Deer stood in their tracks and died. Prairie chickens and quails having alighted

in the snow, could not get out. Man was the only animal that could walk, and game alone, of the food kind, was all he had in plenty. That could be had for the picking up from the snow, for it was helpless. But finally, even game became so poor from starvation that it was unfit for food. The snow staid on the ground all winter, until March, and people ran short of everything, particularly fuel. Thomas Beard, recollecting a widow with a small family living at the bluffs, generously walked out there, and found her and her family on the verge of starvation, and hovering over the last remnants of a fire, she having used all her fuel. Mr. Beard tore up some fencing and chopped a large pile of wood for her, and afterwards carried provisions to her through the snow on foot, a distance of seven miles, as a horse could not travel.

What little corn had been raised in the county, was generally ungathered when the snow came, and yet in the fields, and men took sacks and waded out into their fields and gathered and carried it on their shoulders to their cabins, and to their horses, cattle and hogs, feeding it to them as they best could. The snow that fell first, thawed a little on top, and then froze, forming a crust which would break upon being stepped on by man or beast. Upon this there fell two feet or more of snow, which went through the same process of thawing and freezing, leaving a crust on top not strong enough to bear much weight. Through this no animal

but a man could walk. The black-jack timber surrounding Beardstown for miles, had been a favorite resort for vast numbers of deer, and here they were caught in this terrible snow, and died, being unable to travel. From this time, the climate changed perceptibly colder. Previous to 1831, the most of the pioneers raised sufficient cotton for their own use, and it ripened well, but subsequent to the deep snow, all efforts to raise it in this State were futile. We have no means of information as to the extent of country covered by this deep snow, as not a history of Illinois even mentions it, which leads us to conclude that it was not general, but confined to central Illinois, or, perhaps, even to so comparatively small a surface as the Sangamon country.

In 1831 the Indians became very troublesome in this State, and threatened to overrun the white population. They were led by Black Hawk, their chief and prophet, who pretended to have power given him by the Great Spirit to destroy the pale-faces. He attacked the whites with so much vigor that militia companies were formed for self-protection. A battalion of this militia, of 275 men, commanded by Major Israel Stillman, of Fulton County, was, on the 14th of May, 1832, attacked by Black Hawk on a small branch of the Sycamore Creek and badly defeated and cut up. This was called the battle of "Stillman's Run." The first call which Gov. Reynolds made for troops was in May, 1831, for all able-bodied men who were willing to fight the Indians, to the number of seven hundred, to rendezvous at Beardstown, on the 10th day of June. On that day they assembled in Beardstown in three times that number. Gov. Reynolds organized them at once by appointing Joseph Duncan, of Jacksonville, brigadier-general, and Enoch C. March, of Beardstown, quartermaster. March was equal to the occasion. He was so well acquainted with this

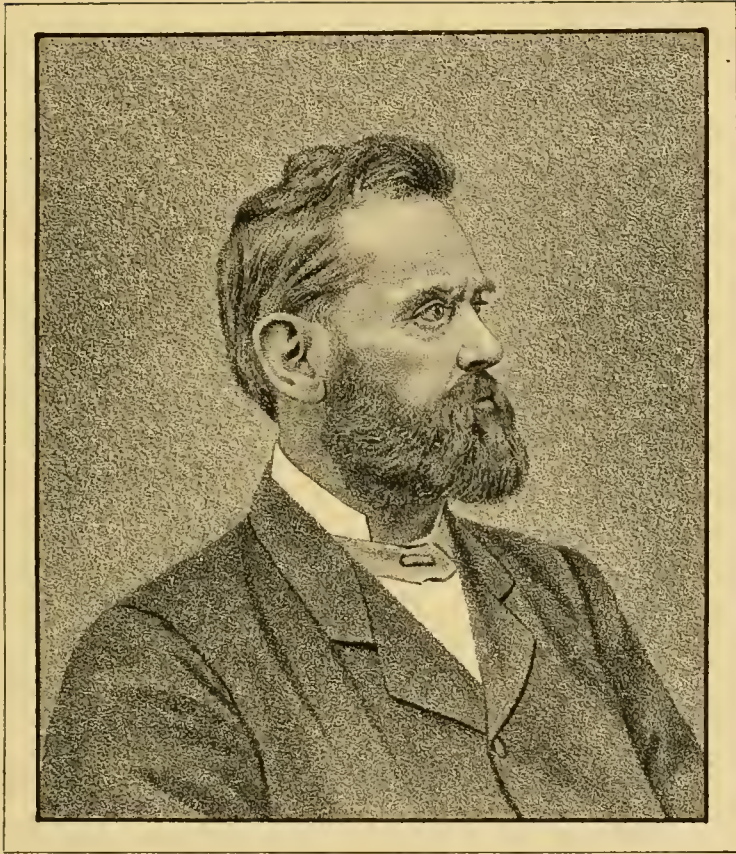
vicinity that he soon furnished the necessary supplies. But Gov. Reynolds was at a loss to know how to arm those who had not brought rifles. In this emergency, Frances Arenz came to the rescue. He was a merchant in Beardstown, and had previously purchased some light brass-barreled fowling-pieces, which had been manufactured in the East for a South American government, and not answering the purpose for which they were made they were shipped West to shoot birds with. These answered excellently for arms for light horsemen and skirmishers. The troops were encamped above town, where the saw mills now stand, until they took up their march. In their ranks were some of the best men of the country.

The whole brigade was organized into two regiments and two battalions. The first regiment was commanded by Col. James D. Henry, Lieutenant Col. John T. Stuart, Major Thomas Collins, Adjutant Edward Jones, quartermaster, and Thomas M. Neal, paymaster. The captains were Adam Smith, William F. Elkin, A. Morris, Thomas Carlin, Samuel Smith, John Lorton and Samuel C. Pearce.

The second regiment was commanded by Colonel Daniel Lieb, Major N. Butler. The captains were H. Mathews, John Hanes, George Bristow, William Gilham, Capt. Kendall, Alexander Wells and William Weatherford, usually called "Old Buck," of Morgan County.

The odd battalion was commanded by Major N. Buckmaster, James Semple, adjutant, Richard Roman, surgeon, and Joseph Gillespie, paymaster.

The Spy battalion was commanded by General Samuel Whiteside, Major Samuel F. Kendall, Adjutant John S. Greathouse, and Paymaster P. H. Winchester. Captains William B. Whiteside, William Miller and Solomon P. Witt. The little army started on



*J. Henry Shaw.*





their campaign June 15, 1831, for Rock Island.

We will relate one incident only, connected with the Black-Hawk War, to show how it affected the then future history, of at least a portion of Cass County.

David Epler, a resident of North Prairie in this county, came to Beardstown to purchase two barrels of salt. He drove two beautiful horses, well harnessed, and a good wagon; altogether just what Col. March wanted for war material. He accordingly seized them, under that law so universally adopted in war times, that "might makes right," and took them from Mr. Epler, *volens volens*. But Mr. Epler refused to give them up, and, his face livid with anger, declared that he would defend them with his life, and that the colonel and his troops would have to walk over his dead body before he would give up his favorite team; at least, until he was paid their value. Col. March then offered to pay for them what two disinterested men should say they were worth. This was agreed to. There were then stopping in Beardstown two comparative strangers, Dr. Charles Chandler and a man named Crawford; to them the cause was referred. They, having come from the East, were wholly unacquainted with the low prices of this new country, and priced the team at eastern values, which Col. March felt in honor bound to abide by, and the consequence was Mr. Epler got \$350 for his team, which was a large price then.

This incident leads us to relate how Dr. Chandler came here. He left Rhode Island, where he had a good practice in his profession, and a new house which he had just built, and started westward with his family, with the intention of settling at Fort Clark, where Peoria now stands.

When the steamer, upon which he came up the Illinois River, arrived at Beardstown—the hostile attitude of the Indians in the

vicinity, and the preparations for a general Indian war, induced the captain to discharge his passengers and freight at Beardstown, he thinking it unsafe to go any further north with his boat.

While here, Dr. Chandler took a ride up the Sangamon Bottom with Thomas Beard, and he was so well pleased with that part of it where Chandlerville now stands, that he determined to go no further north, but to settle there. This was in the spring of 1832. The bottom and bluffs had been burned over, and the new, fresh, green grass and beautiful flowers had sprung up; the trees, and vines and shrubbery were dressed in their most inviting foliage, and he had never seen so beautiful a sight. In a short time he took his wife and little daughter to see their future home, and they were equally delighted with it. There was a wagon road up the bottom, winding along the bluffs, in about the same place it now does, but so little was it traveled that it had not hindered the fire passing over it, and in the middle of the road, between the two horse-paths, was a ridge of green grass mingled with strawberry vines, which looked like a row of cultivated strawberries, and these right in the road; the doctor and his wife and little daughter ate in abundance the large, ripe berries. The doctor entered 160 acres of land where the town of Chandlerville now stands, and built his cabin upon the site of the present Congregational Church. He broke up three acres of land that spring, late as it was, and raised a crop of buckwheat upon it, without any fence around.

There was a universal custom among the settlers at that time, that every man should be entitled to 80 acres of land on each side of the land already entered by him, until such time as he was able to *enter* it, as it was called, or, in other words, until he could raise money enough to buy it from the Government at \$1.25 per acre; and it was considered as

mean as stealing for another man to enter it.

Shortly after the doctor had settled there, a man stopped there named English, who was so well pleased with the prospect that he concluded to enter land and settle there. The doctor assisted and befriended him all he could, and, to induce him to stop, offered to give up his claim to one-half of the eighty acre tract, next to the land that English wanted, and let him enter it. English told him that he was going to Springfield and enter the whole tract; that he did not care for the customs of the country; and that he was going to have it right or wrong, and started for Springfield. All of Dr. Chandler's expostulations with him did not avail anything. The doctor went to his cabin and looked over his little pile of money and found that he had fifty dollars. He thought that his neighbor McAuly had some money, and saddling his best horse, he rode to McAuly's house and borrowed fifty dollars more. Thus provided, he took a different route through the woods and prairies from that chosen by English, and putting his horse to his best speed, started for the Land Office.

When about ten miles of Springfield, he overtook two young men on horse back, and as his horse was foaming with perspiration, and nearly tired out, he rode slowly along with the young men, as well to rest his horse, as to relate to them the cause of his haste. When he told them of the meanness of the man English, one of the young men was so indignant that he offered the doctor his own comparatively fresh horse, that he might make all haste and thwart the efforts of English, while the young man would ride the doctor's horse slowly into town. But the doctor rode his own horse, got safely to the Land Office and entered the land before English got there. Sometime after that he wanted to have his land surveyed, and the county surveyor lived

at Jacksonville, but a neighbor told him that there was a better surveyor living at Salem, in Sangamon County, named Abraham Lincoln. So the doctor sent for him, and when he came with his implements to do the surveying, the doctor found that Abraham Lincoln, the surveyor, was the same young man who had so kindly offered to lend him his horse, so that he might defeat the rascally man English.

Dr. Chandler was the first physician in Central Illinois who adopted quinine in his practice as a remedy; the first who introduced the practice of the infliction of bodily pain as a remedy for overdoses of opium; and the first who opposed bleeding as a remedy. When he went to Sangamon Bottom, he was called into practice before he could build a stable, and for weeks, when at home, tied his horse to a tree and pulled grass to feed him on, having no scythe to cut it with. He built the first frame house within the present limits of this county. It was 10x12 feet, one-story, and shingled with split and shaved oak shingles, which made a good roof for twenty-five years—a fact worthy of notice. He built it for a drug store and office, and it is still in existence. In 1836, he built his present large residence. His reason for building so large a house at that early day was, that it was exactly like the one he had built and left in Rhode Island; and as his family had sacrificed so much in leaving their comfortable home for the wilds of the West, he wished to make a home as near like their former one as possible.

In 1833, Jackson was President; John Reynolds, Governor; and Clay and Webster were in their glory. Beardstown was quite a flourishing town, and the port on the river from which most towns in the interior of the State got their supplies of goods, and from which their produce was shipped to market.

In that year Francis Arenz began publishing the first newspaper north of Jacksonville

and south of Chicago, entitled, *The Beardstown Chronicle and Illinois Military Bounty Land Advertiser*. This paper did the advertising for the counties of Mason, Warren, Brown, Schuyler, McDonough, Stark, Knox, and Fulton, as there were no newspapers printed in those counties. There were no lawyers in Beardstown then, but those usually consulted by our citizens were: John J. Hardin, Walter Jones, Aaron B. Fontaine, Josiah Lamborn, and Murray McConnell of Jacksonville, and William H. Richardson of Rushville.

In 1833, there was not a single merchant north of the Mauvistarre, outside of Beardstown, and not one advertised in *The Beardstown Chronicle*; and money was so scarce that it was almost impossible for any kind of business to be transacted. Francis Arenz humorously ascribes the phenomenon of the great meteoric shower of that year, to the fact, that a day or two previously a subscriber had paid him two dollars, all in cash, for a year's subscription to the *Chronicle*.

The names of the steamers which navigated the Illinois River in 1833-34, were the Peoria, Exchange, Ottawa, Ceres, Utility, Cavalier, Express, Black Hawk, and Olive Branch.

James B. Kenner kept the Bounty Land Hotel at Beard's Landing, on the west bank of the river, opposite Beardstown.

Prices of staples in 1833, at Beardstown, were: Flour, imported, per barrel, \$4.25; wheat, in 90 days, per bushel, 50c.; wheat, cash, per bushel, 45.; salt, per bushel, 75c.; corn, per bushel, 12 to 16c.; beans, per bushel, 50c.; whisky, per gallon, 48c.; pork, per lb., 2½c.; butter, per lb., 10c.; beef, per lb., 2½c.; cigars, per 1000, \$1; cigars, per box, best, \$1.

The business men of Beardstown in 1834, were: Francis Arenz, L. W. Talmage & Co., T. & J. S. Wibourne, J. M. Merchant & Co., Haywood Read, J. Parrott & Co., merchants; John Alfred, M. Kingsbury, and Liscomb &

Buckle, tailors; J. Roulston, hat maker; Henry Boemler, cabinet maker; M. McCreary, cooper; Malony & Smith, forwarding and commission business; Knapp and Pogue, steam mill; Gattton, Judson & Elliott. There were also: Dr. J. W. Fitch, Dr. Owen M. Long, Dr. Chas. Hochstetter, and Dr. Rue.

As descriptive of the business of Beardstown, we will quote the following extract from an editorial in the *Beardstown Chronicle* of March 1, 1834:

"Since the opening of the river, there has been shipped from this place, 1,502 barrels of flour and 150 barrels of pork. Ready for shipment at the warehouses at this time, 581 barrels of flour, 400 barrels of pork, and 150 kegs of lard. This is a fair commencement of exporting surplus produce from a country where a few years ago many of such articles were imported. Two steam flouring mills and one steam saw mill are now in operation. A large brewery and distillery are being built, with a grist mill. Besides, arrangements are being made for building ware, store, and dwelling houses. Four years ago only three families, residing in log huts, lived in this place, and now, we venture to assert, more business is transacted in this town than any other place in the State."

The old brick school house in Beardstown, since a part of Dr. Theo. Hoffman's premises, was built in 1834, by Beard and Arenz, and presented by them to the inhabitants, and for many years was the only place for public meetings.

At that time great stress was laid upon the navigability of the Sangamon River, as boats frequently passed up and down that stream. In 1832, a steamboat of the larger class went up the Sangamon to within five miles of Springfield, and discharged its cargo there.

The farm houses, just previous to the organizing of Cass County, were mostly built of logs, and in many cases, innocent of glass.

The doors were made of puncheon or split logs, as saw mills were few and far between. The fire-places were made of logs filled up with clay dug from beneath the floors. A temporary wall would be built about two feet inside the log wall; the space then filled with earth, and wetted, was pounded or rammed down solid. The inner wall was then taken away and a fire built inside, which baked the jams like brick. Then this was surmounted with a stick and clay chimney, a pole was run across to hang kettles on; and the chinks between the logs of the house were filled up with sticks, clay, and chopped straw. The doors and roof of the house were made of split boards, and frequently not a nail or any iron was used in the whole house. The roof-boards were kept in their places by logs weighing them down; the doors, held together by wooden pins, hung on wooden hinges, and latched with wooden latches. The houses generally had but one room and two doors, but no window. Usually one door of the house was left open, no matter how cold the weather was, to admit light; and rarely both doors were closed, except when the family were about to retire to rest. So habituated were people to open doors, that that custom prevailed even after the introduction of glass into the cabins, for windows. It is related, that on a very cold day, an eastern man who was visiting a friend at his log cabin, proposed to close the door to make the house warmer. The proprietor expressed his surprise at the proposition, but did not object to try it as an experiment. After the door had been shut a few minutes, he seemed much pleased with the result, and said, "Well, I declare! I believe it does make a difference."

A rural poet has truthfully stated that—

"In every country village where  
Ten chimneys' smoke perfume the air  
Contiguous to a steeple,  
Great gentle-folks are found a score,  
Who can't associate any more  
With common country people."

So even in our early days we had some aristocrats. Occasionally a man was found that built his house of hewn logs, and had sawn planks for his floor, and perhaps a glass window. And then some ambitious neighbor must overtop him, and the wonderful palatial double-log-house, with a porch between, appeared. By the youngsters this seemed extravagant and useless; but the surprise of everybody was Dr. Chandler's large, well-finished frame house. Even beds were more accommodating then than now, and would hold many more occupants. There was one, usually, in each of two corners in every log cabin, and under each of these was a trundle-bed which *pulled out* at night; and then there was bedding to spare in most houses, and when friends called and stayed *all night*, which they usually did, a *field-bed* was made that accommodated all. When meal time came, a large amount of good wholesome provender would be supplied, considering the few cooking utensils that were used. Even in well-to-do families the articles for cooking consisted of a Dutch oven, which was simply a shallow kettle, with a cover made for holding hot coals, in which first the bread and then the meat was cooked, a coffee-pot, and a kettle to cook vegetables, when they had any. Wheat bread was scarce, and corn bread was universally used. When bread was spoken of without a prefix, corn bread was meant; any other kind being designated as *wheat* bread or *rye* bread. I recollect a circumstance which will illustrate how corn bread was respected. When Major Miller kept the Western Hotel in Jacksonville, in 1836, there was a saloon, then called a grocery, under it called "Our House." A Yankee, who had been stopping with the Major, called into the grocery to get his biters, and outraged the thirsty customers at the bar by an offensive allusion to the corn bread he had had set before him at the hotel table,

stating among other remarks, that corn bread was only fit for hogs to eat. At this an irritable native took offense; he *peeled* off his coat, and squared his brawny shoulders before the astonished Yankee, and said, "See yer, stranger, I don't know who you are, and I don't keer a durn, nuther; but I'll have you understand that the man that makes fun of corn bread makes fun of the principal part of my living." It was with considerable difficulty that a fuss was prevented, and then only by the Yankee apologizing and treating the crowd to the drinks.

While speaking of Yankees, I might just as well say, that this part of Morgan County was settled principally by citizens from south of the Potomac and Ohio rivers; and a strong prejudice was felt against people from New England, who were all denominated "Yankees;" and, to be just, candor compels me to admit that the representatives of the descendants of the pilgrim fathers, who peddled clocks and tinware, and notions, and essences, and the like, through this part of the country at that time, were not calculated in every instance to inspire any high respect for them as a class.

Fitz Greene Halleck, the poet, writes of them as

"Apostates, who are meddling  
With merchandise, pounds, shillings, pence, and  
peddling;  
Or, wandering through southern countries, teaching  
The A, B, C, from Webster's spelling book;  
Gallant and godly, making love, and preaching,  
And gaining, by what they call "hook and crook,"  
And what the moralists call overreaching,  
A decent living. The Virginians look  
Upon them with as favorable eyes  
As Gabriel on the devil in paradise."

In fact, a mean trick was always expected from a Yankee; while there is reason to believe that, really, there were sometimes just as mean things done by persons from other portions of the nation. To illustrate: About

forty-five years ago, I attended a wolf hunt on Indian Creek. There were about a hundred of us, on horseback, up on a rise in the timber, waiting to hear from the hounds, and passing the time in conversation. The subject of discussion, a not unusual one, was the Yankees, and each man had a story to tell of some *Yankee trick*. Finally, old Uncle Bob Martin, who had but one eye, but was, nevertheless, quite an oracle in such matters, had his say in this wise: "Well, gentlemen, I'll tell yer what it is. I've seed a heap 'er Yankees in my day, and I know all about 'em. I know 'em like a book, inside and out, and I tell yer what it is, gentlemen, all the Yankees don't come from New England, nuther, not by a durn sight. And the meanest Yankee I ever seed, gentlemen, was a Kanetucky Yankee."

I said corn bread was the principal article of diet then. But there were various kinds of corn bread. That most in use was corn dodger. This was simply made of corn meal, hot water and a little salt, stirred together to the consistency of dough; then a double handful was rounded, flatted, and placed in a hot Dutch oven, surrounded with glowing embers. An oven would hold three or four of these, and they were cooked so quickly that a woman could keep quite a large number of hungry men in business. Then there was the pumpkin bread, made by mixing pumpkins and meal, and the *pone*. This last was considered suitable for kings, and I must tell you how it was made. It was thus: Take as much corn meal as is wanted for use; sift it; put it in an iron kettle and pour on it boiling water; stir it till it becomes well mixed and quite thin; this being right, let it remain in the same vessel till morning, and if kept warm it will be well fermented (which is necessary); then put it into a hot Dutch oven, it being heated before the dough is put in it; apply good live embers on the lid of the oven as well as under

it, being careful not to burn it. These were sometimes baked in hot ashes and embers, without an oven. These were called *ash-pones*.

Butter was not common, except in the spring and summer; but large quantities of fat bacon and hams were used instead, which were kept the year round, in the smoke houses, one of which every family had. Potatoes were unknown for many years; and when they were introduced, they were at first very unpopular. People that ate them were stigmatized as *Irish*. Deer, prairie-chickens and other game, as well as domestic fowls, were very plenty and much used for food.

The principal clothing worn by the men was of Kentucky and home made jeans, made into pants and hunting shirts. Under-clothing was hardly ever worn, even in winter, and overcoats, never; yet men seemed as warm and comfortable then as they do now, with undergarments and overcoats. The ladies dressed principally in linsey of their own weaving. I well recollect when calico was first generally worn. Patterns with large flowery figures were preferred; and although our prairies were covered all over in profusion with the most beautiful of flowers, like unto a garden of the gods, yet, I must admit, the prettiest flowers or, at least, the most attractive were those printed upon calico. And I might admit further, that they are not altogether displeasing to most men even now. At the huskings, weddings, meetings, and merry-makings, the girls looked as pretty then, in their home-made suits as they do now, though arrayed in all the gaud and glory of the milliner.

The principal occasions of great public gatherings were political discussions; for, either fortunately or unfortunately (and which it is is a great moral question), there never was a man hung within the limits of this county at the hands of justice, so the public

have never been called together out of curiosity on that account. Among our public speakers at that time were: Lincoln, Hardin Baker, Lamborn, Richardson, and more latterly, Yates and Douglas, besides many from a distance. Besides these occasions, we had preaching in the schoolhouses and barns and groves. Often have some of us, now living, listened to Redick Horn, Cyrus Wright Peter Cartwright, "Old Man Hammaker," of North Prairie, and many others. How many of the old settlers recollect Old Father Doyle, who used to shout "power" until the far-off woods rang, and the hills sent back the echo. Oh! those public meetings in the woods; how grand they were! Bryant sings of them and says—

"The groves were God's first temples.

Ah! why should we in the world's riper years neglect  
God's ancient sanctuaries, and adore  
Only among the crowd, and under roofs  
That our frail hands have raised."

There used to be a famous camp meeting ground for many years at "Uncle" William Holmes', northeast of Virginia, and people attended it from twenty miles around. When this county was first formed, there were but few farms on North Prairie, except those skirting the edge of the timber; and a man could cross it anywhere on horseback, led only by Indian trails, or the points of timber. For instance, a man could start from the Jacksonville road at Yaples or Peterfish's farm, south of where Virginia now is, and go straight to Holmes' camp ground, a distance of about ten miles, northeast, and not pass a fence.

In 1835, the Beardstown and Sangamon Canal Company were incorporated, and there was considerable interest taken in that work.

In 1836, on the 16th day of June, Dr. H. H. Hall laid out and platted the town of Virginia, he having entered the land upon which it stands a short time previously.

At this early date, before there were any other towns than Beardstown, localities were known by other names, as for instance, Robinson's Mills, Panther Creek, Miller's Ferry, Schoonover's Ford, North Prairie, Jersey Prairie or Workman Post-office, Panther or *Painter* Grove, as it was called; *Painter* Creek Post-office, where Chandlerville is now; Little Painter, Middle Creek Settlement, Fly Point, Sylvan Grove, Punccheon Camp, Lynn Grove, etc.

In 1835, The Jacksonville & Meredosia

railroad was incorporated by the legislature of Illinois, which was the first railroad built west of the Alleghenies.

About this time, the Sangamon and Spoon rivers, and Crooked Creek to Henly's mill were declared navigable by the State.

The manner of voting at that time was *viva voce*, the elector announcing to the judges and clerks of the election, in plain voice, the man or measure he intended to vote for, so that it was publicly known how each man voted.

## CHAPTER IV.

ORGANIZATION OF CASS COUNTY—THE CONVENTION AT RUSHVILLE—LEGISLATIVE ACT CREATING THE COUNTY—OTHER ACTS—FIRST ELECTION FOR OFFICERS—THE NUMBER OF VOTERS—AN INCIDENT OF A WOLF—THE COLD DAY OF 1837—LOCATION OF THE COUNTY SEAT—SCARCITY OF MONEY—THE COUNTY MACHINERY PUT IN MOTION—THE COURTS—TROUBLE FROM HORSE THIEVES—EUGENE HONORIUS—THE CENSUS, ETC.

ABOUT this time there became a gradually growing feeling of dissatisfaction in this the northern part of Morgan County, with the management of county affairs at Jacksonville. It seemed to the people here, that Morgan County was ruled by Jacksonville, and that that village was ruled by a clique, or *ring*, as it would now be called. This feeling became more conspicuous, as at that time the removal of the State capital was being worked up. It was provided in the Constitution of 1818, while the capital was at Kaskaskia, that the Legislature should locate a new town, which should be the capital for twenty years. This the Legislature did, and named the place Vandalia. The constitutional limit of that location was fast approaching, and a new seat of government was to be selected.

A statute was passed February 5, 1833, providing, that after the expiration of the time prescribed by the constitution for the seat of government remaining at Vandalia, the people should vote for one of the following named places for the permanent seat of government, to-wit: "The geographical centre of the State," Jacksonville, Springfield, Alton, Vandalia, and Peoria, and the point receiving the highest number of votes should forever remain the seat of government. The southern part of the State was at that time most thickly settled, and it soon became evident that, unless the people of Central Illinois united upon a town in their portion of the

State, Vandalia or Alton would gain it. The people in the northern portion of the State were willing to sacrifice Peoria, but the people of Central Illinois were divided between Springfield and Jacksonville. There was a growing feeling, however, in favor of Springfield, as being the most available; and a convention was called by the central and northern counties, to meet at Rushville, on the 7th day of April, 1834, to unite on one point to support for the State capital. Jacksonville was opposed to this, and favored the deferring the removal of the seat of government to some future time, hoping to gain strength by this line of policy. Consequently, Jacksonville refused to take part in the Rushville convention, while the northern part of the county met at Beardstown, decided to take part in the convention, and elected Archibald Job and Thomas Beard to represent them there, which they afterwards did. This occasioned a discussion between the newspaper of Jacksonville, conducted by Josiah Lamborn, and the *Chronicle* on the part of Beardstown, by Francis Arenz.

To show the state of this feeling as early as 1834, the following is from the *Chronicle* of March 25th, of that year:

"In the 'Chronicle,' No. 35, we published the preamble and resolutions adopted at a public meeting held in Beardstown on the 20th of February last. In one of the resolutions, Archibald Job and Thomas Beard were



appointed to attend as delegates at Rushville, on the first Monday of April next, to represent the wishes of the people in the northern part of Morgan County.

"In our last number we published the proceedings of a meeting held in Jacksonville on the 3d inst. One of the resolutions adopted at that meeting, declares, that 'from the neutral position of Morgan County in relation to locality and interest, it is inexpedient, at this time, for citizens of our county to send delegates to the convention proposed to be held on the first Monday of April next.'

"We also published a letter from J. Lamborn, Esq., to the editor of this paper, explanatory of the views and feelings of those attending the Jacksonville meeting towards their fellow citizens of the northern part of Morgan County, who composed the Beardstown meeting; but as this letter was not part of the proceedings at Jacksonville, and the resolutions adopted are contrary and in opposition to the friendly feelings privately expressed by Mr. Lamborn, we have to take the sentiments as expressed by the meeting.

"The meeting at Beardstown was composed of freemen. They acted for themselves, and appointed two delegates to represent their wishes at the proposed convention, leaving four delegates to be chosen in other parts of Morgan County. If our fellow citizens at Jacksonville, and in the southern and western parts of the county, did not choose to send delegates, no objection or dissatisfaction would have been entertained; but a meeting composed of about one hundred and fifty individuals at Jacksonville and vicinity (being acquainted with the sentiments expressed here), have assumed to indicate in their resolution that it is *inexpedient*, at this time, for *the citizens of our county* to send delegates. To this decree the citizens of the north will not submit. We unhesitatingly say, that two delegates will attend and represent their

wishes. We believe the time has gone by when a few leaders of Jacksonville controlled the votes of Morgan County; and we would advise those who have influence in and about Jacksonville, to use it with discretion. The people north of Indian Creek, and we doubt not in other parts of the county, understand their own interest, and will act accordingly."

The convention was held at Rushville at the appointed time, and such united action was taken as eventuated in the passage of a statute on the 3d day of February, 1837, which permanently located the seat of government at Springfield, and Archibald Job, of this county, A. G. Henry and Thomas Hunghan were appointed commissioners to superintend the erection of the State House.

At the very same session which removed the capital, on the 3d day of March, 1837, a bill was passed that the people of Morgan County should, on the third Monday of April of that year, vote for and against the division of that county, on the line running through the middle of townships seventeen, north, and in case the vote favored it, all north of that line to constitute a new county, to be called the county of Cass; that the county seat should be at Beardstown, until the people should permanently locate the county seat by election; and the school fund should be divided according to the number of the townships between the two counties.

We will here insert this, and other statutes concerning the early history of Cass county, for the reason that the books in which they are contained are probably not to be found in Cass county, outside of our library, and are not for sale anywhere, and they will probably never be reprinted, and are very rarely found except in the State libraries. By reprinting them here they will be preserved.

AN ACT FOR THE FORMATION OF THE COUNTY OF CASS—IN FORCE MARCH 3, 1837.

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the people of the*

*State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That all that tract of country within the following boundaries to wit: Beginning at a point in the centre of the main channel of the Illinois river, where a line running through the centre of townships seventeen north intersects the same, in range thirteen, west of the third principal meridian, thence east with said line to the east side of the county of Morgan, from thence north to the centre of the main channel of the Sangamon river, thence down said river to the centre of the main channel of the Illinois river, thence down said river to the place of beginning, shall constitute a new county to be called the county of Cass.

SEC. 2. The county aforesaid is created upon the following conditions: The people of the county of Morgan as the same is now organized, shall meet at the several places for holding elections for Representatives and Senators in said county, on the third Monday of April next, and proceed to vote in the same manner of voting for Representatives and Senators to the general assembly, whether said county shall be created or not. The judges of elections in said county shall give twenty days' notice of the time and place of holding said elections, by posting notices thereof at six public places in the county, and on said day shall open a poll book at each election precinct, in which they shall rule two columns, in one of which they shall set down the votes given for the creation of said county, and in the other column the votes given against the same, and said judges shall conduct said election, and make returns to the clerk of the county commissioners' court of Morgan County, in the same manner as is now provided by law in the case of elections for Senators and Representatives for the general assembly, and said returns shall be opened and counted in the same manner as in such elections, and if a majority of all the votes given

at said election shall be in favor of the creation of said county, a certificate thereof shall be made by the clerk of said county commissioners' court, under the seal of said court, and transmitted by him to the office of the Secretary of State, of the State of Illinois, to be filed in his office as evidence of the existence of said county, and said clerk shall make a like certificate and file the same in his office, which shall be entered of record at the next succeeding term of the said County Commissioners Court, and shall be sufficient to prove the facts therein stated, after which said county shall be one of the counties of the State of Illinois. The Clerk of the Commissioners Court of Morgan County shall cause a notice of said election to be published in all the newspapers published in the County of Morgan.

SEC. 3. If said county shall be created as aforesaid, the legal voters of said county shall meet on the first Monday of May next, at the several places of holding elections in said new county, and vote for the place where the county seat of said county shall be located, and the place receiving the greatest number of votes shall be the permanent seat of justice of said county, and on the first Monday of August next said county shall proceed to elect all county officers for said county, to be commissioned and qualified as in other cases.

SEC. 4. The owner or owners of the land where said county seat shall be located, shall donate and convey to said county of Cass, at least fifteen acres of land at the place where said seat shall be located, which may be disposed of in the manner the county commissioners' court of said county shall deem proper, the proceeds whereof shall be applied to the erection of the court house and jail, and clerk's offices of said county, but if the county seat aforesaid shall be located at Beardstown in said county, the corporation of said town shall, within one year from the said

location, pay into the county treasury of said county, not less than ten thousand dollars to be applied in the erection of said public buildings.

SEC. 5. Said county shall vote with the county of Morgan for Senators and Representatives until the next apportionment, and said county shall make a part of the first judicial circuit, and so soon as said county shall be organized, the clerk of the county commissioners' court of said county shall notify the judge of the said circuit, and it shall be his duty to appoint a clerk and hold a court in said county at such times as said judge shall appoint. The seat of justice of said county shall be located at Beardstown, until the public buildings are erected. But if the county seat shall be located at Beardstown, and said corporation of Beardstown shall not pay to the treasurer of said county, said ten thousand dollars for the purpose of erecting said public buildings within one year after the location of said county seat, then the county commissioners' court of said county shall locate the county seat at some other point near the center of said county, when the quantity of land mentioned in the fourth section of this act shall be donated as therein provided.

SEC. 6. The school funds belonging to the several townships in said county, and all notes and mortgages pertaining to the same, shall be paid and delivered over to the school commissioners of said county of Cass by the school commissioners of the county of Morgan, so soon as the said county shall be organized, and the commissioners of school lands shall be appointed and qualified according to law, together with all interest arising out of said money, that has not been heretofore expended for schools within that part of Morgan County now proposed to be set off into the county of Cass. This act shall take effect according to the conditions thereof, from and after its passage.

SEC. 7. In case said county of Cass shall be created under the provisions of this act, then until the next apportionment of Senators and Representatives to the General Assembly, the said county shall be entitled to one Representative to the General Assembly, and shall at the next election vote with the county of Morgan for one Senator, also at every succeeding election for said Senator, and the county of Morgan shall be entitled to five Representatives and two Senators. Approved, March 3d, 1837.

The election was had; the feeling between the northern and southern sides of the county was such that the election was favorable to division, and the northern townships immediately called an election for officers with which to organize the new county of Cass.

There were then but three voting precincts in this part of Morgan County, which was about being formed into a new county; they were: Beardstown, Virginia and Richmond, and the following are the names of every man that voted at that election, with the names of the precincts they voted in:

Poll Book at an election held at the house of Moses Perkins, in the Beardstown Precinct, in the County of Cass, Ills., August 7, 1837. Thos. Beard, James Arnold, John Scheffer, judges; T. U. Webb, C. W. Clarke, clerks.

John F. Bailey,	C. F. Kandage,
Alex. King,	Elisha Marshall,
Ben. Beasley,	John Marshall,
Christ. Shanks,	Jos Seaman,
Jerem. Wilson,	Isham Revis,
Jordan Marshall,	Nich. Parsons,
Jos. Britton,	Lewis G. Lambert,
Geo. Bryant,	Wm. Cox,
Jas. King,	Frankl. Stewart,
Geo. McKay,	Sam. Hunt,
John C. Linsley,	Jas. Pounds,
Elizur Anderson,	Fredy White,
Edmund Ensly,	Landerick Kale,

Evan Jenkins,	Nich. Rheim,	Jn. Miller,	Fred. Krohe,
T. C. Mills,	Moses Derby,	Lewis Haines,	Caleb Lee,
Wm. Turkymire,	Jas. Bonnett,	Phil. Schaffer,	Thos. Carroll,
J. W. Crewdson,	Curtis Hager,	Gottlieb Jokiseh,	Phil. Kuhl,
Thos. Haskins,	Dan. Wells,	Jn. H. Treadway,	G. Kuhl,
Andr. Keltner,	Hy. P. Ross,	John Richardson,	John Rohn,
Amasa Reeves,	Hy. Kemble	Christ'n Kuhl,	Jac. Downing,
Chr. Boyd,	Edw. Saunders,	John Holkmon,	Dav. Tureman,
Jos Haskins,	Adolph Shupong,	Seymour Coffren,	Dav. Spence,
Milton Parmelc,	G. Kuhl, 2d	Wm. Home,	Moritz Hallenbach,
John Quail,	Henry T. Foster,	Thos. C. Black,	Hy. Boemler,
Bernard Beist,	Wm. Bryant,	Owen Clemens,	Dav. Emerieh,
Ben. Britton,	Dav. Marshall,	Bradford Rew,	L. H. Wilkey,
Geo. Cowan,	B. uford Haines,	Lewis Cowan,	Thos. J. Moseley,
J. N. Jenkins,	Hy. Schaffer,	Nich. Coterai,	Joel K. Bowman,
Dan. Britton,	Thos. Pierce,	Gottlieb Jokisch,	Wm. W. Gillet,
Sam. Groshong,	Jacob J. Brown,	Jn. Cuppy,	Wm. W. Hemminghouse,
John Kettely,	Jackson Stewart,	Godfr. Gutlet,	Fred. Kors,
Wm. Quigg,	Jos. Canby,	John C. Scott,	John Decker,
Marcus Chandler,	Geo. Garlick,	Wm. H. McKanley,	Chs. Garland,
Leander Brown,	Jas. Dickinson,	Alex. Ratcliff,	John Brackle,
Jas. Garlick,	Westley Payton,	Math. McBride,	Chr. Hell,
Dan'l Boyne,	Isaac Short,	John Burns,	Elisha Olcott,
Thos. Proctor,	Amasa Warren,	John Bridgewater,	Absalom Spence,
Rich'd Graves,	Geo. Schaffer,	John A. Thomas,	Wm. Ritchie,
Rich'd Wells,	Asa Street,	John Buck,	Hy. Miller,
George Brown,	Jas. Roach,	Wm. R. White.	M. Kemper,
Ben. Horom,	Jas. A. Carr,	Jn. W. Anderson,	Wm. Moore,
Jos. H. Clemens,	John Haram,	Henry Collins,	Sam. Shaw,
Jas. Neeper,	Zach. Bridgewater,	Hy. Roha,	Jos. McClure,
Jackson Scott,	Wm. Moore,	Wm. Bassett,	Wm. Dougall,
Stephen Buck,	Wm. R. Parks,	Jas. Davidson,	Wm. Holmes,
Wm. Shuteman,	John P. Dick,	Robt. Lindsay,	Lewis Nolte,
Edward Salley,	Joshua Morris,	Wm. Cross,	Wm. Clark,
Demsey Boyce,	Wm. W. Clemons,	Jn. Wilbourns,	B. W. Schneider,
Aaron Powell,	J. Philippi,	John McKean,	Francis Rice,
Jerm. Bowes,	Jas. Scott,	Jas. Logan,	Aug. Knapp,
Jas. Case,	Jas. Cook,	Jos. Baker,	Dan. Scott,
A. Philippi,	John Gutliff Berger,	Christ. Newman,	Martin F. Higgins,
P. Philippi,	Fred. Krohe,	Thos. Stokes,	Dudley Green,
W. W. Gordon,	Aug. Krohe,	Jasper Buck,	Thos. Wilbourne,
Hy. Havekluft,	Fred Inkle,	Jas. Davis,	Hy. Braker,
Jac. FisaI,	Louis Sudbrink,	Jas. Bell,	O. Long,
John Newman,	Adam Krough,	E. R. Gillett,	John Schaeffer,
John Yokes,	Montela Richardson,	J. B. Pierce,	T U. Webb,
Orrin Hicks,	Rucy Richardson,	Harmon Byrnes,	J. Blackman,
John Waggoner,	W. Moody,	Joshua Alexander,	Pet. B. Bell,
Thomas Cowan,	Sam. Fletcher,	Edw'd Treadway,	Morgan Kemper,
John Hicks,	L. H. Treadway,	Chs. Chandler,	Thos. Bryant,
Dav. Newman,	John Price,	Peter Light,	Otto Wells,
G. A. Bonny,	Reuben Alexander,	Wm. B. Gaines,	J. W. Lippincott,

Wm. Shepard,  
 Sam. Thompson,  
 Hy. Hendriker,  
 Rob. Moore,  
 Wm. Sewell,  
 Sam. McKee,  
 T. A. Hoffman,  
 Reuben Hager,  
 John Duchardt,  
 Wm. L. Felix,  
 John Ayers,  
 Hammer Oatman,  
 Thos. Saunders,  
 A. Williams,  
 J. B. Wilson,  
 Thos. Payne,  
 Wm. B. Ulside,  
 Dan. Sheldou,  
 John McLane,  
 Lewis Kloker,  
 F. Arenz,  
 Moses Perkins,  
 Hly. Pheboe,  
 Butler Arnold,  
 Isaac Plasters,  
 Z. P. Harvey,  
 Wm. H. Williams,  
 Ralph Morgan,  
 J. P. Crow,  
 Austin Shittenden,  
 C. W. Clark,  
 John Cushman,  
 J. S. Wilbourne,  
 Wm. Scott,  
 Edw. Collins,  
 John Pierson,  
 Lewis Piper,

Jn. Steele,  
 Arn. Arenz,  
 Pet. Douglas,  
 Hy. Kashner,  
 J. M. Quate,  
 Jn. W. Gillis,  
 Dav. Jones,  
 Jos. W. Hardy,  
 Wm. Miller,  
 Christ. Trone,  
 Jessie Ankrom,  
 John McKowan,  
 Hy. Whittick,  
 Carlton Logan,  
 Wm. Butler,  
 H. Smith,  
 J. C. Spence,  
 Nich. Kelly,  
 Wm. W. Bolt,  
 Wm. DeHaven,  
 Hy. Wedeking,  
 Dan. Riggle,  
 G. F. Miller,  
 C. J. Norbury,  
 T. Graham, Jr.,  
 Lemuel Plasters,  
 Jac. Anderson,  
 Hly. McKean,  
 John W. Pratt,  
 John Bull,  
 Lewis Stoner,  
 Thos. Beard,  
 J. Arnold,  
 N. B. Thompson,  
 A. Batoage,  
 Dav. White,

John Wilson,  
 Oliver Loge,  
 Wm. Lucas,  
 Aaron Wright,  
 John Pryor,  
 Standley Lockerman.  
 Henry S. Dutch,  
 Robert Nance,  
 Wm. Myers,  
 Wm. Myers,  
 Amos Dick,  
 Henry Dick,  
 Jonathan N. Loge,  
 John Hathorn,  
 Colman Gaines,  
 John Davis,  
 Daniel Robinson,  
 John Lucas,  
 Robert Leeper,  
 John Taylor,  
 Robert B. Taylor,  
 James B. Conner,  
 Willis Daniels,  
 Wm. S. Clemons,  
 Robert Carter,  
 James Wing,  
 Washington Daniels,  
 Ely Cox,  
 James Hickey,  
 John Baldin,  
 Ashley Hickey,  
 John B. Witty,

Calvin Wilson,  
 Charles Scaggs,  
 Wm. P. Morgan,  
 Riley Claxton,  
 Zachariah Hash,  
 John Cook,  
 Clinton Wilson,  
 Henry McHenry,  
 John Johnson,  
 Mathew Loundsberry,  
 Frederiek McDonald,  
 John Leeper,  
 Pleasant Rose,  
 Geo. Fancier,  
 James Bonnet,  
 Cyrus Elmore,  
 Thomas Jones,  
 Henry D. Wilson,  
 John L. Witty,  
 Henry Taylor,  
 Alfred Daniels,  
 Marcus Cooper,  
 John B. Thompson,  
 Eaton Nance,  
 James Hathorn,  
 John Pratt,  
 H. W. Libbeon,  
 Sylvester Sutton,  
 Robert G. Gaines,  
 Amos Bonney,  
 James Roles,  
 Cyrns Wright.

Election at the house of John De Weber, in the Virginia Precinct, in the County of Cass, Illinois, August 7, 1837. This certificate is added: "The County not being organized, and, of course, no Justice of Peace, or appointed Judge, Mr. Wm. Clark administered the oath to the other acting judges and Mr. James Daniel administered it to him and to the clerks. Subscribed by us,  
 "WM. M. CLARK,  
 "JAMES DANIEL."

Poll Book at Richmond Precinct election of 1837.

Mat'w Soundsberry, Jr,  
 John Hillis,  
 Wm. T. Kirk,  
 Thos. Lockerman,  
 Azariah Lewis,  
 Levy Dick,  
 Gibson Carter,  
 David Pratt,  
 John Faneier,  
 Henry Nichols,  
 Jacob Bixler,

Obadiah Morgan,  
 Horatio Purdy,  
 Jerry W. Davis,  
 John Roberts,  
 John Cheshire,  
 Thomas Plasters,  
 Abner Foster,  
 Peter Dick,  
 Cary Nance,  
 Wm. Liun,  
 Enoch Wheelock,

Louis Thornsberry,  
 Wm. Paton,  
 Wm. Graves,  
 Levi Springer,  
 P. S. Oulten,

John Slack,  
 Ezra Dutch,  
 Young Phelps,  
 John Craig,  
 L. B. Ross,

Thos. Plaster, Sr.,	Wm. Fields,
Benj. Corby,	Alex. Bain,
John Glover,	Jas. Garner,
P. Underwood, Jr.,	John Biddles,
Perry G. Price,	Phillip Cochrane,
Thos. J. Joy,	H. H. Hall,
John Daniel,	A. Elder,
Wm. B. Kirk,	A. S. West,
Jeremiah Northern,	Wm. M. Clark,
Jos. McDaniel,	Wm. Blain,
Felix Cameron,	Titus Phelps,
Robt Davidson,	Jas. Williams,
H. Osborne,	Henry Hopkins,
Benedict Cameron,	Thos. Boicourt,
Anderson Phelps,	John Robinson,
Zeb. Wood,	George Shaw,
Jesse Spicer,	J. M. Ross,
Wm. Craig,	Pleas. Scott,
Jas. Bland,	Jas. Biddle.
L. Carpenter,	J. T. Powell,
John Clark,	John De Weber,
L. Clark,	Reddick Horn,
Geo. Cunningham,	Archibald Job,
Michael Reed,	George Beggs,
Green H. Paschal,	B. Stribling,
Onslow Watson,	Chas. P. Anderson,
John McDonald,	S. Steveson,
Joel Home,	Jas. Daniels,
Charles Brady,	James B. Davis,
Wm. Daniels,	John Redman,
W. P. Johnstone,	Elias Matthew,
W. P. Finch,	Thos. Finn,
John Carpenter,	Daniel Cauby,
Thos. Lee,	L. B. Freeman,
Thos. G. Howard,	J. M. McLean,
Joshua Price,	B. A. Blantin,
Green Garner,	Jos. Jump,
Aaron Bonny	C. H. Oliver,
Amos L. Bonny,	Alex. Huffman,
Ephraim Moseley,	Jonas McDonald,
Jas. Ross, Sr.,	John Peirce,
T. S. Berry,	John Biddlecome,
A. Bowen,	Jas. Berry,
John Long,	M. O'Brien,
Evan Warren,	Isaiah Paschal,
John Cunningham,	M. H. Biddles.
Jas. Holland,	

## CANDIDATES.

*Probate Justice.* J. S. Wilbourn, 65; Wm. Scott, 26; Jas. Berry, 15.

*Sheriff.* Lemon Plaster, 81; M. F. Higgins, 15; J. B. Bueby, 70.

*Recorder.* N. B. Thompson, 30; Thos. Graham, 1; Dr. O. M. Long, 7; Alfred Elder, 64.

*County Commissioners' Treasurer.* Thos. Wilbourn, 14; J. C. Spense, 84.

*County Commissioners' Clerk.* J. M. Pratt, 52; R. G. Gains, 49.

*County Commissioners.* Amos Bonney, 60; G. F. Miller, 16; H. McKean, 30; Benj. Stribling, 95; Henry Mcffenry, 7.

*County Surveyor.* Wm. Holmes, 86; Wm. Clark, 19.

*Coroner.* C. Rew, 27; J. Anderson, none; Halsey Smith, 75.

The election was held on the first day of August, 1837, and the following named officers were elected: Joshua P. Crow, Amos Bonney, and George F. Miller, County Commissioners; John S. Wilbourn, Probate Justice of the Peace; John W. Pratt, Clerk of County Commissioners' Court; Lemon Plaster, Sheriff. These men were sworn into office by Thomas Pogue, a Beardstown magistrate.

On the 14th day of August, 1837, the county commissioners met and organized Cass County. At this first meeting of the board, the new county was divided into six precincts, which were named: Beardstown, Monroe, Virginia, Sugar Grove, Richmond and Bowens.

When this county was organized there was not a house, built exclusively for religious worship, in it, and not one in all Morgan County outside of Jacksonville. Physicians were scarce, and fever and ague quite common. Game was plenty, some of which was very disagreeable, particularly wolves, and an occasional panther. The wolves very seldom did violence to human beings; but when the weather was cold and stormy, and the ground frozen, they were so bold and threatening, that nobody cared to risk himself out alone at night. The only instance of violence to a man within our recollection, was the case of Esquire Daniel Troy, living near Bethel

who was walking home one night from town, carrying a quarter of beef on his shoulder. He was attacked by a gang of wolves, the beef taken away from him, and he very roughly handled.

There were a few large gray wolves also, that were very much feared. One cold, bright, moonshiny night, we heard an uncommon fuss with our dogs, and opened our cabin door. A favorite little black dog immediately pounced into the house, and the largest gray wolf, we ever saw, which was after him, tried to follow. The door was open, and we had no time to get our rifle. The only weapon at hand was a stick of fire wood, but with this we did good execution, and Mr. Wolf had to beat a retreat. So severely had we beaten him, that he immediately left our premises. We afterward heard a fuss among the dogs at a neighbor's, Armstrong Cooper's house, and then the crack of a rifle, and in a short time we heard the dogs and another rifle at Mr. Lamb's house, and then all was still. We found next morning that these shots of Cooper and Lamb had killed him. He was a monster, and measured nine feet and nine inches, from his nose to the end of his tail.

At that time there was very little litigation among the country people, and personal altercations were usually settled by a resort to blows.

It was in the winter of 1836-37, we believe, although we defer our recollection to others, if they think we are mistaken, that we had what we called the "sudden change" in the weather, the most remarkable one we ever saw, heard of, or read of. On Saturday morning there was snow on the ground. The following Sunday was a very warm day, and Monday, until about one o'clock p. m., was still warmer, and on both days there was considerable rain. The snow had melted into slush and water, which was standing in ponds on the level

ground, and roaring down declivities. At that hour the weather turned suddenly very cold. In one hour after the change began the slush and water was frozen solid; and in two hours from that time, men were hurriedly crossing the river on the ice. A vast amount of cattle, fowls and game, and many persons, were frozen to death. We heard of one man, who was crossing a prairie, on horseback, who had killed his horse and taken the entrails out of him and then crawled inside of him for protection, was found there frozen to death. We don't know how the thermometer stood, for we had none.

On Monday, during this sudden change, Dr. Chandler was returning home from a professional trip up the bottom. His overcoat was covered with slush and mud, and in a few minutes after the change began his coat was frozen stiff, and he felt that he was in danger of being frozen. He stopped at the store of Henry T. & Abner Foster, at Richmond, on the land since owned by John P. Dick, where he was warmed up and thawed out. He then mounted his horse and started on a gallop for home, about six miles distant, but soon found himself freezing again. He stopped at another house, and warmed, and started again, with like results. He thus was forced to stop at four different houses, between Foster's store and his house, to prevent freezing to death. When he arrived within sight of his own house his horse fell down, and left him helpless on the ice, and his family dragged him, in a helpless condition, into the house.

At the special session of the Legislature, in the summer of 1837, was passed a preamble and statute to the following effect:

WHEREAS, at an election held in the county of Morgan, according to the provisions of "An act for the formation of the county of Cass," it appeared that a majority of the

voters of said county voted for the creation of said county ; and, whereas, at an election for the county seat of said county, Beardstown received the highest number of votes for the county seat, and whereas, some doubts have been expressed as to the legality of the proceedings of said election, now, therefore, to remove all doubts on that subject :

SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois represented in the General Assembly,* That the county of Cass, as designated and bounded in the "Act for the formation of the county of Cass," approved March 3d, 1837, be, and the same is hereby declared to be, one of the counties of this State.

SEC. 2. The county seat shall be located at the city of Beardstown, in said county ; *Provided, however,* that the provision of the act above referred to, shall be complied with by the citizens, or a corporation of Beardstown, in relation to the raising the sum of ten thousand dollars, to defray the expenses of erecting public buildings for said county.

SEC. 3. The corporation of Beardstown shall be allowed the period of one, two, and three years, for the payment of ten thousand dollars, aforesaid, to be calculated from the passage of the law aforesaid, which sum shall be paid in three equal payments. The County Commissioners' Court of said county shall make their contracts for erecting the public buildings in said county, so as to make their payments thereon when the said installments aforesaid shall become due and payable.

SEC. 4. The court house of said county shall be erected on the plat of ground known as the public square, in said town of Beardstown.

SEC. 5. Returns of the elections for the county officers of said county, to be elected on the first Monday of August next, shall be made in Beardstown, to O. M. Long and Thomas Poyne, notaries public in Beardstown, who shall open and examine the poll books of

said election in the presence of one or more Justices of the Peace in and for said county ; and said notaries public, after due inspection and examination of the poll books, according to the laws of this State, shall make out certificates of election of those persons who have received the highest number of votes, which certificates shall be such as those required to be made by the Clerks of the County Commissioners' Court, and shall receive and be entitled to the same effect in law.

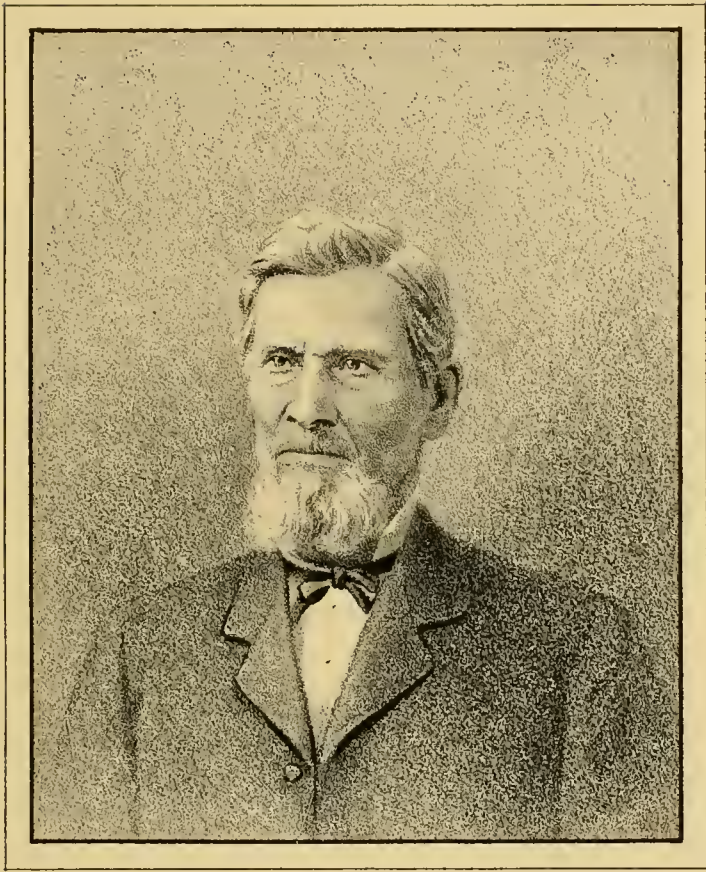
This statute also provides *how* the school fund of Morgan County shall be divided with Cass County.

At the session of 1839, on the 2d day of March, the Legislature made this preamble and statute :

"*Whereas,* it was provided, by the act for the formation of the county of Cass, that, in case the county seat of said county should be located at Beardstown, the corporation or inhabitants should, within one year after the location, pay into the county treasury the sum of ten thousand dollars, to be applied to the erection of public buildings; and whereas, by the act passed 21st of July, 1837, in relation to said county, further time was allowed said corporation to make said payment, the said corporation having failed to pay the said ten thousand dollars, and not having complied with, or agreed to comply with the provisions of the last recited act, the County Commissioners of said county, under the provisions of the first recited act, located the county seat at Virginia, and contracted for the erection of a court house and jail in said county; and doubts being entertained as to the true construction of the act last recited in relation to the rights of said corporation, and the duties of the County Commissioners, therefore:

"Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois represented in the General Assembly,* That the county seat of Cass County shall be and remain at Virginia, and





*J. A. Arenz*



the courts of said county shall hereafter be held at that place; and the several county officers, who are required to keep their offices at the county seat, are required to remove their respective offices, and all bonds, documents, books and papers pertaining to the same, to Virginia, on or before the first day of May next, and thereafter hold and keep their respective offices at that place; and in case one or more of said officers shall fail, or refuse to comply with the provisions of this act, such officer shall forfeit his office."

In the years 1838 and 1839, was built, as we believe, the first railroad west of the Alleghany Mountains, running from Meredosia to Springfield. We particularly recollect this great enterprise, for two reasons: first, we took a trip in 1838 from Meredosia to Jacksonville, on the first passenger train that ever ran on that road; and second, because it was built by the State, and was a part of that great internal improvement policy, which bankrupted and disgraced the State, and spread misery among the people. Of all the *hard times* that the people of Cass County, and indeed of the whole State, have ever seen, these were the hardest.

This was caused by a passage of a bill in the Legislature, providing for a general system of internal improvements by the construction of nearly 1,300 miles of railroad, and the improvement of various rivers. These improvements never paid the interest on the money they cost, and in 1840, after a short but eventful life of three years, fell the most stupendous, extravagant and almost ruinous folly of a grand system of internal improvements that any civilized community, perhaps, ever engaged in, leaving a State debt of \$14,237,348.00, and a population of less than half a million to pay it. For this the people could not blame the Legislature, or the politicians, for the people themselves had demanded and clamored for it, and the Legisla-

ture only obeyed their behest in granting it. At the same time, the State banks suspended, and left us with a depreciated currency. The State Bank of Shawneetown collapsed with a circulation of \$1,700,000, and the State Bank with \$3,000,000. The people were left destitute of an adequate circulating medium and were not supplied until the ordinary process of their limited commerce brought in gold and silver and bills of solvent banks from the other States, which was very slow. Even immigration was stopped, owing to the general financial embarrassment, high taxes, and disgraceful condition of the State. When money was abundant, credit had been extended to every body. With the vast system of internal improvements, and the large circulation of the banks, this was the condition of our people. They were largely in debt on account of speculations, which proved to be delusions. Contracts matured, but nobody paid. The State had sold and hypothecated her bonds until its credit was exhausted. Then no further effort was made to pay even the interest on the State debt. Then the State bonds went down, down, until they were worth but fourteen cents on the dollar. The people were unable and unwilling to pay higher taxes, and what might almost be called a general bankruptcy ensued. The people owed the merchants; the merchants owed the banks, and for goods purchased abroad; while the banks, having suspended specie payment, owed every one who carried one of their rags in his pocket. None could pay in par funds, for there were none to be had. In this dilemma the Legislature tried to come to the relief of the people, but instead of relieving them from their wretched condition by summary legislation, they, as such bodies usually do, in like circumstances, only made matters worse. Among other statutes passed with this generous object, was one that we have no doubt many citizens of Cass will recollect, which was

known among the people as the *stay law*, or *two-thirds law*. It serves to illustrate both the *hard times* and the inconsiderate and unjust legislation of that day, although done with the intention of affording relief to the debtor class, without apparently thinking that it was at the expense of the creditor. This law provided that property levied upon by execution should be valued as in "ordinary times;" the valuation to be made by three householders summoned by the officer holding the writ of whom the debtor, creditor, and officer should each choose one, thus placing it in the power of the officer to favor either party at his option; the property was not to be sold unless it brought two-thirds of its valuation; no way was provided by which the creditor if two-thirds of its valuation was not bid, could hold his lien; thus forcing him to stay collection or suffer discount of  $33\frac{1}{3}$  per cent. This law was made applicable to all judgments rendered and contracts accruing prior to the 1st of May, 1841, without reference to the legal obligations of the time when contracts were entered into; being in violation of that clause of the constitution of the United States, declaring that "no law shall be passed impairing the obligation of contracts." In the case of *McCracken v. Howard*, 2d Howard, 608, the Supreme Court of the United States subsequently held this law to be unconstitutional. But, in the meantime, the law had performed its mission, and had rendered the collection of debts almost impossible. The condition of our people was truly distressing. There was an utter dearth and stagnation of business. Abroad, the name of the State was associated with dishonor. There were no immigrants but those who had nothing to lose; while people here, with rare exceptions, were anxious to sell out and flee a country presenting no alternative other than exorbitant taxation or disgrace. But property would not sell, nor was there any

money to buy with. Indeed, money, as a means of exchange, became almost unknown. Payment was taken *in trade*, *store pay*, etc. Merchants and other dealers issued warrants or due bills, which passed for so much on the dollar *in trade*. Even the county commissioners' court of Cass County came to the relief of the people, and had a plate engraved, and issued vast quantities of county warrants, or orders, in the similitude of one dollar bank bills. But these county orders, and others like them, were made invalid by an act of the legislature passed in the interest of the banks; so that even this charitable act on the part of our county commissioners to relieve the local scarcity of money, failed in its office.

At this time money was so scarce that it was with great difficulty that farmers, owning good farms, could get the money to pay their postage. It was not necessary then to prepay postage. Domestic letters cost from five to twenty-five cents apiece, according to the distance they had come; and foreign letters were still higher.

What was worse, they must all be paid for in silver, and it often occurred that a letter would lie in the office for weeks before its owner could get the silver to redeem it. If the farmers wished to get goods from the store, they were forced to buy on credit, and pay in grain or other produce, or take butter, eggs, poultry, game, honey, wood, or other articles, to exchange for store goods.

Produce continually fluctuated in price, even in store pay. We have seen corn sell at six cents often, and have heard farmers remark that ten cents in cash was all that corn ought to and probably ever would bring, and that farmers could get rich at that price. We have sold wheat in Beardstown at thirty-five cents per bushel, and pork often at one and one-quarter cents per pound.

One of the first acts of the County Commissioners' Court after the organization of

this county, was to arrange for raising a revenue, and they passed an order that the following kinds of property be taxed at the rate of one-half per cent.: Town lots, "indentured or registered negro or mulatto servants" (for this had not ceased to be a slave State at that time), pleasure carriages, stocks in trade, horses, mules, "and all neat cattle over and under three years old," hogs, sheep, wagons and carts.

A public notice was given to "all persons trading in Cass County" to procure a license according to law. Under this notice, at the September Term, 1837, Spence & Foster, T. & J. T. Wilbourn, and Parrot & Alcott, got a license to sell goods, wares, and merchandise in Beardstown; and Beasley & Schafer, a similar license at Monroe; and all such licenses were fixed at five dollars each. Tavern licenses were granted at seven dollars each. At the same term, a license to keep a ferry-boat, for one year, at Beardstown, was granted to Thomas Beard for twenty-two dollars.

The first county order drawn on the treasurer, was for twenty-two dollars and fifty cents, in favor of N. B. Thompson, for the books of the County Commissioners' Court. The second was in favor of N. B. Thompson, for thirty dollars, and was for three county seals, in full, September 6, 1837.

The first term of the Circuit Court of Cass County was held in Beardstown, November 13, 1837, in a one-story frame building standing at the corner of Main and State streets, where Seeger's hall now stands. Present: the Hon. Jesse B. Thomas, Jr., judge of the First Judicial Circuit; Lemon Plaster, sheriff; and as the Circuit Clerk was not an elective office at that time, N. B. Thompson was appointed clerk by the judge.

The grand jury at that time consisted of Thomas Wilbourn, foreman, Isaac Spence, Augustus Knapp, James H. Blackman, Alexander Huffman, Robert Gaines, Richard

Graves, William Shoopman, Benjamin Stribling, John Daniels, Phineas Underwood, Ephraim Moseley, John Robinson, Elijah Carver, John P. Dick, William McAuley, Marcus Chandler, Henry S. Ingalls, Jeremiah Bowen, Amos Hager, and Jeremiah Northern.

There was no petit jury at this term, but talismen were drawn as they were wanted.

At the May term, 1838, Nathan *alias* Nathaniel Graves, was indicted for the murder of an eastern man named Fowle, which murder took place at what was known as Miller McLane's grocery, kept in a log house which stood on the present site of Philadelphia. Fowle and Alec Beard were sitting down on a log outside the grocery, talking in a friendly manner. There was quite a number of persons around. Graves and Richard McDonald came riding up on horseback from different directions about the same time. Graves dismounted, leading his horse towards Fowle, drew a pistol and shot and killed him. He was so near Fowle that the fire burnt his clothes. The men standing around were so surprised that they stood still while Graves mounted his horse and started to ride away. At this time McDonald cried out, "Men, why don't you arrest him?" and rode after him. When Graves saw that McDonald was about to catch him, he drew a knife and turned around. McDonald caught him by the throat and choked him till he surrendered, but was himself badly, almost fatally, wounded in the struggle. Graves took a change of venue to Green County, where, breaking jail, he escaped to Kentucky, where he died a natural death.

In 1839, the town of Arenzville was founded by Francis Arenz.

Thus matters stood from 1837 to 1843, during which time there grew a feeling of dissatisfaction among the people of the southern half of the townships seventeen and other parts of the Morgan County, with Jacksonville; and there was such effort made to dis sever

their relations, that two statutes were passed by the Legislature in the session of 1843, which provided for the accomplishment of three objects: one of which was that a vote be taken whether Morgan County should be divided into two counties, one of which was to remain by the name of Morgan County, and the other by the name of Benton; second, that the tier of half townships, known as seventeen, or the "three mile strip," on the north side of Morgan County, be added to Cass County; and third, that Cass County should vote for the selection of a permanent county seat. The election on the first proposition was held in Morgan County on the first Monday in August, 1843, and resulted unfavorably to the creation of the county of Benton. The proposition to annex the "three-mile strip," was held in the four different precincts in that strip of territory, on the first Monday in May, 1845, and stood as follows:

	For attaching to Cass.	Against attaching.
Arenzville.....	115	5
At the house of Henry Price	70	14
Princeton.....	41	35
At the house of Wm. Berry	20	24

Majority for attaching the "three-mile strip" to Cass, 168.

On the first Monday in September, 1843, there was an election held in Cass County to determine the permanent location of the county seat, at which election the vote stood as follows:

Precincts.	For Beardstown.	For Virginia.
Virginia.....	2	234
Richmond .....	21	34
Monroe.....	17	7
Beardstown.....	413	13

Majority for Beardstown, 165.

The county seat was removed to Beardstown, and on the eighth day of February, 1845, the town of Beardstown presented the county commissioners' court with lot one, in block thirty-one, in that town, with the court

house and jail thereon completed. On the sixth of March, 1846, Reddick Horn sold his farm, consisting of 134 acres, in sections twenty-eight and twenty-nine, in township eighteen, range eleven, to the county of Cass, for a "home for the poor of the county," for \$1,500.

By the breaking out of the Mormon war, in 1845, Beardstown again became the rendezvous for the State forces called out to coerce into obedience to our State laws that peculiar people. The troops were under the command of Brigadier-General John J. Hardin, of Jacksonville, Illinois.

The town of Chandlerville was begun in 1848, by Dr. Charles Chandler; and Ashland in 1857.

From 1850 to 1852, Cass County was infested by horse thieves, who resided in the county, some half dozen of which were arrested in the latter year, and brought before a magistrate for examination. One of the number was a large, powerful, good-looking young Hungarian, named Eugene Honorius. We were prosecuting the case, and felt satisfied from what we could learn, that he had no heart in that nefarious business, but was induced to stay with the gang out of love for the sister of one of them. Not having sufficient testimony, we pressed him into the service as witness, and by a rigid examination, extorted all the necessary facts from him sufficient to hold the rest of the gang, who were committed to jail.

Before the sitting of the Circuit Court, however, they all broke jail, and fled to Kansas; from whence the girl to whom Honorius was attached, wrote back to a friend the statement: That by an arrangement with the gang, after they had escaped from jail, one Sunday she asked the Hungarian to go to a religious meeting with her, down on Indian Creek. That they started on horseback, but that she decoyed him away down on Hog

Island, where they met the gang, who shot and killed him in revenge for his having "*peached*" on them; and that if the prosecutors wanted to use him for a witness again they could find him at a certain place on Hog Island, and designated it.

Upon being informed of this, John Craig and the writer rode down there, and at the place designated in the girl's letter, we found the bones of a man, evidently about the large size of Honorius, but so much torn to pieces and broken by animals, that we could find but three whole bones, the two thighs and the jaw bone, which we have yet in our possession. The perpetrators were never re-taken, but the county was not troubled with horse-thieves for a long time afterwards.

By virtue of the State Constitution of 1848, a statute was passed by the legislature of 1849, abolishing the County Commissioners' Court, and the office of Probate Justice of the Peace, and creating instead the County Court, consisting of one judge and two associate justices of the peace.

The first court elected under the new law was: James Shaw, judge; Wm. Taylor and Thomas Plaster, associates.

At the same session an act was passed authorizing counties to adopt township organ-

ization, if a majority of the citizens should favor it. An effort was made at that time, and several others by a vote of the people have been made since, to adopt that form of county government in Cass County, but have failed; the people in every instance preferring to remain under the old form of organization.

In the same year, 1849, Beardstown was incorporated as a city, with the same charter as those of Springfield and Quincy. In this year also occurred the third election for location of the county seat, which was decided in favor of Beardstown. Another election was had in 1857, and another in 1868, for the same purpose, but the county seat still remained at Beardstown. Another election was held in 1872, under the Constitution of 1870, and a new general statute governing re-location of county seats. The history of this last election and its results is too fresh in the memory to need repeating now. By it the county seat was removed to Virginia, where it now remains.

The first census taken after Cass County was formed, was in 1840; it then had a total population of 2,981. In 1850, it had 7,253; in 1860, 11,325; in 1870, 11,580; in 1880, 14,493.

## CHAPTER V.

## FERTILE LANDS OF CASS—ITS GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS—COAL MEASURES—DIFFERENT DEPOSITS—COAL—BUILDING STONE—LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM CASS COUNTY — PRINCIPAL COUNTY OFFICERS SINCE FORMATION — ILLINOIS RIVER ITEMS, ETC.

CASS County, being highly favored with fertile lands, and all which, with industry, goes to make up wealth, has prospered ever since it was formed. In the beginning it had but little developed wealth. A few farms scattered along the edges of the timbered lands or in the river bottom-lands and the little town of Beardstown was about all. But notwithstanding its small territory, it has bounded along and now competes with its most progressive neighbors. Its prairie and bottom lands are now in cultivation, and great farms and substantial farm houses now stand where a few years since were waste places. A few years ago the barren lands, (so-called because a former growth of timber was supposed to have exhausted the soil) were unsettled, and considered almost worthless, but now they are known to be very productive, especially for wheat, and have been all taken up and mostly cultivated. Also the sand-ridges scattered along the river bottoms are found to be profitable for the production of melons, sweet potatoes, beans, etc., and have been turned to account for these purposes. Our cities and towns are in a prosperous condition, having their fair share of manufactories, and commerce and other means of continued prosperity. We have the Illinois river and abundance of railroads for business and pleasure; the St. Louis & Rock Island, Peoria, Pekin & Jacksonville, and Chicago & Alton R. R.'s running north and south, and the Beardstown and Spring-

field branch of the O. & M., running east and west.

The history of the present generation of the prominent and representative people of Cass County will be found in the biographies and in the description of its cities, towns and business, as set forth in other parts of this work, and which will form a continuation of this history.

Cass County is bounded on the north by Mason County, on the east by Menard County, on the south by Morgan County, and on the west by the centre of the channel of the Illinois river. Its superficial area is about four hundred and sixty square miles. The level of its high prairie lands is about six hundred and thirty feet above that of the ocean, forty-five feet above the level of Lake Michigan, and three hundred and forty feet above low water at Cairo, in the Illinois river.

The surface of the county is, for the most part, gently undulating, becoming hilly and broken only along the courses of the streams. In the western part, along the Illinois river, there is a strip of bottom land, varying in width from three and one-half to five miles. This extends also along the Sangamon river, on the northern border.

The soil of the prairie portion of this county is the same as that in the whole of this portion of the State, a dark-colored loam with a lighter colored clay sub-soil. On the ridges and bluffs which skirt the streams, we find



this sub-soil everywhere, except upon the Loess formation, exposed at the surface of the ground, and generally bearing a heavy growth of timber. On the bottom lands the soil is an alluvial arenaceous loam, and, excepting in localities where the sand too greatly predominates, is an excellent and productive soil.

The principal kinds of timber upon the uplands are the common varieties of oak, hickory, elm, sugar maple, black and white walnut, linden, and various species which are rather less frequent. On the bottoms there are the willow, soft maple, ash, sycamore, cottonwood, water oak, etc., in addition to some of the before-mentioned species, forming a considerable proportion of the timber. The proportion of prairie to wooded land is probably nearly evenly divided.

The geological formations in this county consist of the Quaternary deposits, the Loess and Drift, and the Coal Measures, which alone of the older formation underlie the surface beds of clay, gravel, etc. The Loess forms the bluffs along the Illinois and Sangamon bottoms. Its general features here are the same as in the other river counties, and it forms the same bold bluffs that are seen in other localities along the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The material here is an ash or buff-colored marly sand, containing fossil fresh-water shells of existing species. The thickness of the formation is considerable, some sixty or seventy feet immediately at the bluffs, but it rapidly thins out in the back country, in many places disappearing entirely within a very short distance. It appears to extend the farthest inland along the Sangamon River north of Virginia, and several good sections of this deposit may be seen in the cuts on the Peoria, Pekin and Jacksonville Railroad, between that place and Chandlerville.

The Drift Deposits consist of brown, yellow

and blue clays, with boulders, while sand and gravel seams are of frequent occurrence amid the mass. The thickness can hardly be estimated, as experiments have not been made, but will probably range between forty and one hundred feet.

Coal Measures, so far as developed, comprises a thickness of over three hundred feet of the middle and lower portion of the series, and contains two or three seams of coal of workable thickness. The principal exposures, commencing with the lowest, are as follows:

In the southwest part of section 21, township 18, range 11, where the wagon road between Virginia and Beardstown comes down through the bluffs to the bottom lands along the Illinois river, there are several old coal shafts, only one of which (late Mr. Kinney's) is now worked. This is reported to have afforded the following section:

1. Soil (Loess).....15 feet.
2. Brownish sandstone, containing many vegetable impressions.....13 "
3. Limestone ("Blue Rock")..... 2 "
4. Clay Shale ("Soapstone").....12 "
5. Coal (No. 1 of Illinois river section)..... 3 "
6. Fire clay, very hard..... 4 "

No. 2 of this section crops out along the bluff road, at the edge of the bluffs, and a few rods farther west, in ledges several feet in vertical exposure. It is a soft micaceous sandstone, of a light brown or whitish brown color, and appears slightly crumbling at this locality. About a quarter of a mile further north the coal seam No. 4 is reported to have been reached by digging in at the foot of the bluff and worked by stripping. Still farther to the northward, in the northwest quarter of the same section, in an old quarry on the side of the bluff, a little to the right of the wagon road, is an exposure of about ten feet in thickness, of a heavy bedded sandstone, the same as that which is met with in the shaft, and exposed on the roadside near by. A lit-

the farther northeast, near the eastern line of section 16, the coal seam is said to appear again, and to have been worked to a slight extent in the side of a ravine about half a mile from the road.

Above the north line of section 21, the bluffs, for about two miles, are mostly of Loess, and it is necessary to go up the side ravines in order to see the exposures of rock. About half a mile up the large ravine, which cuts through the bluffs in the southern part of section 10, on the eastern side, there is another exposure of the sandstone (No. 2 of the section), and a little above this, near the northwest corner of section 14, there is about ten feet exposed of the shales No. 4, capped by a single layer of limestone two feet thick (No. 3).

The coal seam must be very near the bottom of the ravine at this point, but it is not exposed.

The outcrops of the sandstone continue up this ravine and its branches in the eastern part of section 14 and the western part of section 15, for about three-quarters of a mile above this point, and then disappear entirely. The rock is, in most respects, the same as in the localities before described, a soft, even textured sandstone, varying in color from brownish red to a dirty white, and in some portions having a light bluish tinge and a slightly variegated appearance.

It contains a great abundance of fossil vegetable remains, calamites, etc., but from the nature of the rock very few are found in a good state of preservation.

From the mouth of this ravine, for a short distance to the northeast, along the face of the bluffs, there are no very good exposures of any of the beds. There seems to be here, however, a low anticlinal, the strata having gradually risen until, at this point, the coal seam No. 4 has been worked by drifting into the side of the bluff almost midway between

the base and summit. The crown of the arch is very near this point, and the direction of the axis of the fold must be, judging from appearances, about southeast.

The seam of coal is said to be about three feet thick at this point, but at present only the entrances to the old drifts and the debris can be seen, no work having been done here for a number of years.

A short distance further along the bluff road, nearly on the line between sections 10 and 11, another large ravine opens out, and the rock again appears. The coal seam was formerly worked also at this point, at a level some fifteen or twenty feet above the road, though its outcrop is not now visible. Just below the level of the old drift there is an outcrop of what appears to be a nodular argillaceous limestone, which is probably just underlying the fire-clay.

Above the opening of the drift the Shale No. 4 appears, and still higher up the bank the Limestone No. 3 has been slightly quarried, and above all the sandstone No. 2 appears, but at present the debris of the sandstone and shale covers all the lines of junction, and no very reliable measurements of the thickness of the beds can be taken. The sandstone continues to appear in the sides of the ravine, and in the bed of the small stream which occupies it for upwards of half a mile. Its total thickness, although in no place so fully exposed as to afford an opportunity for accurate measurement, can hardly be less than fifty or sixty feet.

East of the mouth of this ravine, through the northern half of section 11, this sandstone appears in ledges in the bluffs, at an elevation of fifty feet or more above the road, and has been quarried in some of the small ravines. In one of these ravines, in the Northeast quarter of section 11, there was a single outcrop of the coal seam, the exposed thickness of which is about three feet. This is on the

Northeastern slope of the anticlinal, and only a little further on the Loess and Alluvium come down to the road, and the exposures of rock cease to appear for the distance of several miles.

Leaving the last mentioned localities, and continuing eastward along the base of the bluffs, the next prominent exposure is met with near the center of the western part of section ten, township eighteen, range ten, on the left bank of Job's creek, just above the point where it comes out of the bluffs and enters the bottoms. Here the Sandstone No. two has been quarried in the hillside, some thirty feet or more above the water, presenting precisely the same appearance as at the other localities already mentioned. The lower beds of limestone and shale, and the coal seams, if, indeed, they occur above the bottom of the ravine at all, are completely hidden by the fragments and debris from above. The sandstone appears again at one or two points further east, within the distance of one mile, in the northeast quarter of section ten, and almost on the line between sections ten and eleven.

The only remaining locality in Cass County, where the older rocks appear at the surface, or are artificially exposed, is on Panther creek, near Chandlerville, in sections five and six, township eighteen, range nine. A shallow coal shaft in the southeast quarter of section six, afforded the following section :

	feet.	inches.
1. Surface soil .....	4	
2. Gravel (blue bind).....	4	
3. Black slate.....	2	
4. Clay shale (soapstone).....	13	
5. Coal.....	2	6
6. Fine clay, passing downward into nodular limestone.....	2	
7. Clay, penetrated.....	2	

The shale and slate appear in the bank of the creek for upwards of half a mile above the coal diggings, seldom rising more than two or three feet above the water's edge. No

fossils were discovered. It seems quite probable that this seam of coal is the same as that in the exposures further west, although from the lack of continuity in the exposures, and other sufficient evidence, it may, perhaps, be best to refer to it only provisionally.

COAL.—All parts of Cass County appear to be underlaid by the coal measures, which here include the horizon of four or five different seams of coal. It seems highly probable, indeed, that there is no portion of the county, excepting the bottom lands along the Illinois and Sangamon rivers, that is not underlaid by at least one coal bed of workable thickness. The lowest of these seams, which is exposed or worked anywhere in this region is probably the coal No. 1 of the general section of the State, identical with the Exeter coal of Scott County, although it is possible that it may prove to be No. 2 of the general section, or the same as the Neeleyville coal in Morgan County.

The absence of black slate in the roof and the great thickness of the sandstone above, are facts which seem to slightly favor this view, but are, however, not conclusive.

The absence of exposures in the southwestern portion of Cass County is to be regretted, as not affording the means of positively determining this question.

This seam of coal is now actively worked at only one or two points in Cass County, although it was formerly much more extensively mined along its out-crop on the side of the bluffs of the Illinois and Sangamon rivers. The seam will average three feet in thickness, and is of fair quality. The discontinuance of the most of the mining operations was mainly due to the small local demand and the competition of other mines in the adjoining counties on the Illinois river.

BUILDING STONE.—The brownish sandstone which occurs in very heavy beds above the roof shales of coal No. 2, promises well for

this purpose. It is usually of a reddish-brown color, though in some places it approaches a dirty white, or has a bluish tinge, is very soft and easily dressed when first quarried out, but is said to harden on exposure. At the junction of this rock and the underlying shales there is generally from one to three feet in thickness of limestone, which has been also quarried to some extent at a few points. The quantity of this sandstone is such that it is practically inexhaustible; it is probable, however, that all parts of it will not be found to answer equally well as a building stone.

**OTHER BUILDING MATERIALS.**—Limestones suitable for the manufacture of a fine article of quicklime are found wherever limestone can be obtained for building stone. Some selection, however, has to be made among the beds at some points for a material which will afford an article of lime suitable to supply the local needs.

Clay and sand for brick making are found in abundance in all parts of the county, and will probably become one of the chief sources of building material in those parts distant from available stone quarries.

The general surface configuration and soils of the county have been noticed in this sketch, and but little more need be said on that branch of the subject. The soil of the upland prairies takes rank with the best in Central Illinois in general agricultural value. The soil of the timbered portions is also productive when properly cultivated.

Along the Illinois and Sangamon rivers, in the bottom lands, there are occasional sandy tracts or ridges, generally covered, before being put into cultivation, with a dense growth of stunted oak and black-jack, and frequently with prickly pears, which are, of course, inferior in richness of soil, but which are of late years being successfully used in the cultivation of melons, sweet-potatoes, beans, grapes, etc.; but, as a general thing, the

soil of these bottoms is a deep rich arenaceous loam, which, when sufficiently elevated, or properly drained, or guarded with dykes to prevent overflows of water from the rivers, is one of the most productive soils in the State.

One of the greatest difficulties which a large portion of the farmers of Cass County will have to encounter in the future, is the washing of hilly uplands by heavy rains, and the consequent covering and ruin of rich bottom lands by sand and poor clay silt. Already, much damage and many lawsuits have grown out of it, and unless some concerted and united action is had by the parties interested, the future will bring much greater damage and increased litigation. Another important matter that should be taken into consideration, is the frequent and destructive overflow of the creeks. This could be remedied in most instances by straightening the creeks by cutting channels across the bends, and removing the drift wood from the bed, by a combination of neighborhoods, all those interested working together for the common good; or a remedy could be had under the drainage law.

But the above remarks are sufficient for a general description of the county and its wealth-producing qualities. For the geological facts herein contained I have mostly drawn on the "Economic Geology of Illinois," a work of undoubted authority.

The following are the names of the resident representatives of Cass County in the Legislature :

William Holmes.....	for the years 1838-40
Amos S. West.....	" " 1840-42
David Epler.....	" " 1842-44
John M. Pratt.....	" " 1842-46
Francis Arenz.....	" " 1844-46
Edward W. Turner.....	" " 1846-48
Richard S. Thomas.....	" " 1848-50
Cyrus Wright.....	" " 1852-54
Samuel Christy.....	" " 1856-58

Hy. E. Dummer, <i>Senator</i> .....	“ “	1860-64
Frederick Rearick.....	“ “	1860-62
James M. Epler.....	“ “	1862-64
James M. Epler.....	“ “	1866-68
James M. Epler, <i>Senator</i> .....	“ “	1868-72
William W. Easley.....	“ “	1870-74
John F. Snyder.....	“ “	1878-80
John W. Savage.....	“ “	1878-80
J. Henry Shaw.....	“ “	1880-82

The principal officers of Cass County since its formation, are as follows :

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, CASS COUNTY.

Joshua P. Crow.....	} Elected August 7, 1837.
Amos Bonney.....	
George F. Miller	
Joshua P. Crow.	
Amos Bonney.	
Isaac C. Spence....	Elected August 6, 1838.
Amos Bonney.	
John C. Scott.....	Elected August 3, 1840, for 3 years.
Marcus Chandler... “ “	2 “
John C. Scott.	
Marcus Chandler.	
W. J. DeHaven....	Elected August, 1841.
John C. Scott.	
W. J. DeHaven.	
Robert Leeper....	Elected August, 1842.
John C. Scott.	
W. J. De Haven.	
Henry McHenry...	Elected December 26, 1842.
W. J. DeHaven.	
Henry McHenry.	
Jesse B. Pence.....	Elected August 7, 1843.
Henry McHenry.	
J. B. Pence.	
George B. Thompson.	Elected August, 1844.
J. B. Pence.	
George B. Thompson.	
Wm. McHenry...	Elected 1st Monday of August, 1845.
J. B. Thompson.	
William McHenry.	
Henry McHenry. .	Elected 1st Monday of August, 1846.
William McHenry.	
Henry McHenry.	
George H. Nolte. .	Elected 1st Monday of August, 1847.

Henry McHenry.  
George H. Nolte.  
Geo. W. Weaver, .Elected 1st Monday of August, 1848.

COUNTY COURT, ESTABLISHED 1849.

James Shaw, <i>Judge</i> .....	} Elected November 6, 1849.
William Taylor, <i>Associate</i> .....	
Thomas Plaster, <i>Associate</i> .....	
James Shaw, <i>Judge</i> .	
Thomas Plaster, <i>Associate</i> .	
Jacob Ward, <i>Associate</i> .....	Elected May 19, 1851.
John A. Arenz, <i>Judge</i> .....	} Elected November, 1853.
Isaac Epler, <i>Associate</i> .....	
Sylvester Paddock.....	
John A. Arenz, <i>Judge</i> .	
Sylvester Paddock, <i>Associate</i> .	
John M. Short, <i>Associate</i> ....	Elected November, 1855.
H. C. Havekluft, <i>Judge</i> ...	} Elected November, 1857.
Wm. McHenry, <i>Associate</i> .....	
G. W. Shawen, <i>Associate</i> .....	
F. H. Rearick, <i>Judge</i> .....	Elected November, 1861.
Wm. McHenry, <i>Associate</i> .	
G. W. Shawen, <i>Associate</i> .	
John A. Arenz, <i>Judge</i> .....	} Elected November, 1865.
Jennings G. Mathis, <i>Associate</i> .....	
Samuel Smith, <i>Associate</i> .....	
Alexander Huffman, <i>Judge</i> .....	} Elected November, 1869.
Andrew Struble, <i>Associate</i> .....	
Jepthah Plaster, <i>Associate</i> .....	
F. H. Rearick, <i>Judge</i> .....	Elected February 24, 1872.
Andrew Struble, <i>Associate</i> .	
Jepthah Plaster, <i>Associate</i> .	
John W. Savage, <i>Judge</i> .....	Elected November, 1873.
Jacob W. Rearick, <i>Judge</i> .....	Elected November, 1877.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Wm. Campbell..	} .....Elected Nov. 1873.
John H. Melone.	
Robert Fielden..	
William Campbell.	
John M. Melone.	
Luke Dunn.....	Elected November, 1875.
John M. Melone.	
Luke Dunn.	
Robert Crum.....	Elected 1876.



William H. Nelms.....	1838-1839
Robert G. Gaines, .....	1839-1847
John Craig, .....	1847-1851
Martin F. Higgins, term of office,.....	1851-1853
Phineas T. Underwood, " .....	1853-1857
Frank A. Hammer, " .....	1857-1859
David C. Dilley, " .....	1859-1871
Phillip H. Bailey, " .....	1871-1873
John L. Cire, " .....	1873-1881
John Rahn, " .....	1881

ILLINOIS RIVER MEMORANDA.—The following we have collected from various sources, as well as largely from our own observation:

1640.—Twenty years after the settlement of Plymouth Colony, the Illinois river was first navigated by white men in pirogues and birch canoes, and Illinois was coloized by Frenchmen, and added to the French Dominion.

1673.—Marquette and Joliet with five followers, crossed Wisconsin in canoes to the Mississippi river, down that stream and up the Illinois to Lake Michigan, the point of their departure, the entire route being at that time, and for a hundred years later, navigable for pirogues and canoes, the route being via Green Bay, and the Wisconsin, Mississippi, Illinois, Kankakee and St. Joseph rivers. There was another navigable connection, during the whole of that period, between the Illinois and Lake Michigan, by means of the DesPlaines and Chicago rivers, which men now alive have traveled in pirogues, all the way.

1670, Dec.—The Illinois, Kankakee and St. Joseph route was navigated by La Salle and thirty-three followers.

1681, Aug.—Illinois, Kankakee and St. Joseph route again navigated by La Salle and party.

1682.—La Salle and party navigated the waters from Lake Michigan, across Wisconsin, down the Mississippi, up the Illinois, Kankakee and St. Joseph, to the lake. At that time Beardstown was upon an island, the water surrounding it the year round, permanently.

1687, Sept.—The Illinois, Kankakee and St. Joseph route navigated by seven Frenchmen, mutineers and murderers of La Salle, on their way from Arkansas to Lake Michigan.

1693.—Gravier and his followers settled at Kaskaskia, Cahokia and Peoria, and from this time for fifty years the Illinois was continually navigated by canoes, pirogues, and other small boats.

1725.—The first of the four greatest floods of the Western rivers.

1750—Vivier says that forty vessels from the Illinois River landed at New Orleans, laden with lumber, brick, beef, tallow, cotton, myrtle, wax, leather, tobacco, lead, iron, copper, wild game, tar, skins, furs, pork, bears' oil, flour, and other articles of produce.

From this time on for many years, the principal part of the produce received at New Orleans was shipped from the Illinois River.

1763—LaCleve founded St. Louis, which gave a new impetus to commerce in the Illinois River, it being a nearer market. At this time the Illinois country was ceded by France to Great Britain, which closed the French war.

1772—Second great flood.

1778—Illinois was conquered and taken from Great Britain by Virginia, and was added to that State, and named Illinois County.

1785—A great flood on the Illinois and all Western Rivers, the third highest ever known.

1786—Another great flood. The Ohio rose fifty-nine feet above low water mark. The stage of water in the Illinois River is not recorded that I can find, but known to be very high.

1792—Another great flood. The Ohio rose sixty-three feet above low water mark. Stage of the Illinois not recorded, but very high.

1800—The population of Illinois, on the borders of its rivers, 3,000.

1810—Great flood in all the Western rivers. The Ohio at Pittsburg higher than

ever before known. Stage of the Illinois not recorded. Steamer "Orleans," the first on Western rivers, built.

1811—On the 16th day of December began the most remarkable phenomena that ever occurred in North America: an earthquake, the continued shocks of which lasted for the space of three months, a longer period than ever before known; the effects of which were felt in Illinois, Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky and Arkansas, the focus of which seemed to be about the mouth of the Ohio. It made great commotion in the rivers, the banks of which caved in by whole acres at a time. Large islands disappeared under the waters. The town of New Madrid, Missouri, was destroyed, and the river now runs over part of its former site. The balance of it is lower by twenty-five feet than it was before. The bed of the river just below the mouth of the Ohio raised up like a bow and turned up stream, until its pent-up waters with accumulated force swept over the barrier and poured into the craters and fissures of the ground, when they were again thrown out in huge streams higher than the trees.

The river was navigated at that time by many flat-boats from the Illinois, Upper Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, some of which were swallowed up in the great chasms of the river. There was much loss of life and property. Fortunately at that time the country was sparsely settled; for no building could have withstood its fury.

This calamity checked the commerce of the Illinois River, as indeed also the general prosperity of the Western States. All immigration stopped, and the impression became general in the Eastern and Middle States that Illinois and Missouri were so subject to earthquakes, as to be forever unsafe as a place of habitation. But in a few years this impression with its attendant fears wore away, and immigration again was resumed.

There have been but two earthquakes in Illinois since that time, one in 1840 and the other in 1862; both slight shocks; the one in 1840, however, doing some little damage to brick buildings and chimneys.

1815—The steamer "Enterprise" built, and run from New Orleans to Louisville, the first steamboat which ever run up stream in the Western rivers. The "Orleans" was able only to run down stream, and had to be cordelled back. From 1815, steamboats multiplied very fast, and the pirates, who in large numbers had infested the western rivers, began to disappear, and finally ceased their depredations altogether.

1826, June 2.—The Illinois and Mississippi were higher than before known for forty years. The river was up to Main street, in St. Louis, which caused great destruction of property.

1827.—Steamer "Mechanic," John S. Clark, captain, first steamboat ever up the Illinois river.

1828.—Another great flood, supposed to be as great as that of 1792.

1829.—Beardstown was founded by Thomas Beard.

1830, 31.—The great snow, six feet deep.

1836.—The Illinois and Mississippi again flooded. The water at St. Louis was fifty-four feet above low water mark, being nine feet ten inches higher than in 1810.

1837.—Steamer "Wave" burned near Peru; one man lost, a passenger, who was drowned.

1844.—This was the greatest flood on record in this or any other country, since the days of Noah. Every river west of the Alleghanies and north of the gulf of Mexico, rose simultaneously, and the channel of the Mississippi was unable to pass out the vast amount of water which came into it. Four hundred human beings, and a great number of horses cattle and other stock lost their lives.

The water was one foot deep on Main Street, in Beardstown, and this city again



became an island, with ten feet depth of water between it and the bluffs. The water rose to a level with the second story windows on Front Street, St. Louis. A great many towns were inundated and houses washed away.

The four greatest floods on the Mississippi River and its tributaries, within the last 150 years, are those of 1725, 1772, 1785 and 1844.

1848—"Planter" exploded and burned at Jones' Ferry on the Illinois River. Five persons were killed and many scalded, some of whom afterward died. The captain escaped harm, but was shortly afterward killed by the explosion of the "Saluda," on the Missouri River.

1849—Another flood this year. The water was on a level with Main Street, in Beardstown, and again it became an island. The people on the lower Mississippi suffered more than in 1844, on account of crevasses, their losses amounting to \$60,000,000. The water was ten feet deep in some of the streets of New Orleans. At this time, and for several years afterward, steamboating on the Illinois River arrived at the zenith of its glory and prosperity. During these years it boasted the finest vessels which ever floated on its waters; among which were the *Die Vernon*, *Prairie State*, *Cataract*, *Garden City*, *Ocean Wave*, *Belle Gould*, *Polar Star*, and many others; they were truly floating palaces, and the travel was upon the river and canal exclusively, there being no railroad convenient for that class of travelers. On May 17th of this year, occurred the great conflagration in St. Louis, by which several whole blocks of buildings and twenty-three steamboats were burned, among which were the *Prairie State* and *Acadia*, Illinois River packets.

1850—*Financier*, an Illinois River packet, exploded at Alton. Seven lives lost.

1851—August 20, *Dacotah* exploded at Peoria; eleven lives lost. November 27, *Die*

*Vernon* and *Archer* collided three miles above the mouth of the Illinois River; the *Archer* sank immediately; twenty-three persons were drowned, whose names were known, also quite a number on deck, whose names were unknown. In this year there were two floods, the two continuing so long as to cause more damage than any former one. The water was highest on the 11th of June, when it was four feet nine inches lower than the high water mark of 1844.

1852—*Prairie State* No. 2 exploded April 25th, at Pekin; twenty lives lost. In April, the Illinois was very high, but no unusual damage was done. The Ohio rose as high as in 1832, doing an immense injury to property.

1856—Illinois River on a level with Main street, running over at one place, Lafayette Street. March 22, *Tropic* and *Challenge* first boats up. *Ocean Spray* burned. December 14, river closed.

In 1852 and 1856, during the high water, first-class steamboats went entirely around Beardstown without any difficulty.

1857—February 18, *Brazil* first boat up. River moderate. November 19, river closed. December 1, opened and remained navigable until February 19, when it closed.

1858—March 11, river opened; *Adriatic* first boat up. River did not close again. *Prairie State* collapsed a flue; one man killed. This spring the river was very high, being nearly as high as in 1844. The water crossed over Main Street, and all the lower parts covered. The city again an island, and a first-class steamer, loaded with passengers, went around it.

1859.—January 21, River closed for the first time. Open to St. Louis on the 28th. February 3, closed again. February 16, *F. X. Aubry* first boat up. December 15, closed.

1860.—February 21, *Polar Star* first boat up. *Belle Peoria* burned. November 24,

river closed. December 7, Sam Young came up. December 13, river closed. January 1, deep snow; very cold; railroads generally blocked up; mails stopped; and traveling suspended two weeks.

1861.—February 16, Polar Star first boat up. Still very cold; some ice running. February 22, Minnesota Belle came up. December 26, river closed.

1862.—March 12, Minnesota Belle first boat up. December 6, river over the Schuyler bottom lands, and closed. December 12, river open. La Salle first boat up.

1863.—February 3, river closed until February 13. Lacon first boat down. December 9, river closed.

1864.—February 2, Schuyler first boat up. February 16, river closed. February 22, river open. From September 1 until October 13, only two feet of water in channel, and navigation suspended. December 9, river closed.

1865.—February 20, City of Pekin first boat up. December 12, river closed. December 21, thermometer  $14^{\circ}$  below 0, Fahrenheit. December 23,  $14^{\circ}$  below.

1866.—January 21, six o'clock p. m., thermometer  $4^{\circ}$  above, with heavy rain, freezing as it fell, and heavy thunder and lightning mercury falling rapidly meantime, until nine o'clock p. m. it stood  $8^{\circ}$  below, where it stood until morning. Thunder and lightning lasted one hour, say until seven o'clock p. m. It will require a skillful meteorologist to explain these phenomena. February 15th, thermometer  $26^{\circ}$  below at Beardstown, which was the coldest day ever known in this county. In the northern counties of this State it ranged from 30 to  $40^{\circ}$  below. February 16, thermometer  $16^{\circ}$  below. March 1, Schuyler first boat up; river over bottom lands. Steamer Farragut collided with the Meredosia bridge, whereby the canal boat Ajax, with entire cargo was lost, and John Quigg drowned. The Ajax was in tow of the Farragut. March

17, thermometer  $7^{\circ}$  above, but river remained open. Fall quite warm and pleasant until December 11; turned cold, mercury  $8^{\circ}$  above. December 12,  $4^{\circ}$  above, and ice running thin. Illinois run down in the morning, cutting her way through. Same day river got clear of ice and Farragut went down. December 15, snowed six inches; weather moderate;  $26^{\circ}$  above, but ice running; 17th,  $2^{\circ}$  below; 19th, river opened and boats run until Christmas; 25th, ice running; and 26th, river closed,  $2^{\circ}$  above.

1867.—February 9th and 10th, thermometer  $10^{\circ}$  below. March 8, river clear of ice; Farragut and Gem started down. Boats run all the week. March 13, weather turned suddenly cold,  $6^{\circ}$  below, ice running; and March 14, river closed. March 20, river open; water all over the low lands and within three feet of the surface of Main street, Beardstown. June 14, Peoria City's last trip down; low water began. July 20, Illinois' last trip down. August 8, City of Pekin's last trip down. Gem collapsed a flue; two men killed. September 18, Lancaster's last trip down. December 1, Lakin's last trip down. December 5, Beardstown's last trip up. River closed.

1868.—March 4th, river open; Schuyler first boat up. March 5, City of Pekin up. March 9, Beardstown up. March 10, Illinois up. July 7, Low water began; Schuyler's last trip down. July 13, Illinois' last trip down. November 15, river in good stage; Illinois began regular trips. December 4, snow six inches; thermometer  $33^{\circ}$  above. Belle Pike burst a cylinder; one life lost, one wounded. December 9,  $4^{\circ}$  below; river closed. Illinois last boat up. December 12, Mercury  $10^{\circ}$  below. The second week in this month was the coldest week ever experienced in this State, the mercury  $26^{\circ}$  below, Fahrenheit.

1869.—January 1, weather warm. January



*Charles Chandler*



6, river opened; Pekin up. April 2, river moderately high, and ferry-boat ran to Frederick. River continued gradually to rise until August 3, when it reached its highest, being on State street, in Beardstown, within one foot of the level of Main street. The rainiest season ever known. River open to navigation until January 7, 1870.

1871.—November 11, river closed, and remained closed all winter.

1873.—January 28, coldest night ever known in this State. Early in the morning the thermometer stood 40° degrees below zero, Fahrenheit. Mercury congealed. Snow 16 inches deep.

## CHAPTER VI.

AGRICULTURE OF CASS COUNTY—FARMING IN THE PRIMITIVE TIMES—IMPROVED FARM IMPLEMENTS—AGRICULTURAL FAIRS AND ASSOCIATIONS—LISTS OF OFFICERS—CASS COUNTY PARK ASSOCIATION—ITS ORGANIZATION, ETC.—FINE STOCK OF THE COUNTY—SHORT HORN HERDS, ETC.—THE RAILROADS, ETC.

CASS County has the reputation of being a fine agricultural region, and indeed the larger portion of the county is as choice land as may be found in the State. Its claims to superiority are well founded. While some counties may show more of rich soil, and while other counties may be better adapted to some specialty, yet it is safe to say that there are few counties that can lay claim to all the advantages in climate, soil, water, timber and general healthfulness that are possessed in a great degree by this. While in some sections a certain specialty, may, with propriety, be claimed as peculiar, we believe that no county combines so many natural advantages. In some of the more northern counties we find perhaps larger crops of corn, and in some of the more southern, a greater amount of fruit; but these specialties, even in the localities named, are not a certain crop. The farmer's safest course is a diversity of products, and Cass County furnishes an example of soil and climate which makes it in an eminent degree fitted for such pursuits. For a number of years, the natural advantages of this region were scarcely appreciated, as the farming was carried on in such a manner as to obtain results far below those now realized. Better farm machinery, better methods of planting and cultivation, and the adoption of crops better suited to the soil, have wrought great changes. In an especial manner is this true in regard

to methods of planting, cultivating, harvesting and taking care of products.

The way our fathers performed their farming operations, is so little known to the present generation who depend mostly upon farm machinery, requiring the horses to do all the work which men, women and children formerly did, that a description of the olden way, gathered from conversations with some of the oldest farmers still living, can not prove otherwise than interesting to some of our young farmers of the present time. Just banish from the farm all such modern innovations as reapers, mowers, corn-planters, hay-rakes, threshing-machines, sulky-plows, riding corn-cultivators, and a slight conception can be formed of primitive farming facilities. To prepare the ground for planting corn it was plowed over with a wooden-mold board plow, which had to be cleaned every few rods with a paddle which hung to one of the handles; it was then scratched over with a wooden-toothed harrow, after which it was "laid-off" both ways with the one-horse shovel-plow. It was then ready for planting. This was done by the boys, the women, children and men; the smallest of the children dropping the grains of corn in the "crosses," where it was covered with hoes by the men and larger boys and women. After the planting, and when the corn had come up, then came the hoeing, now superseded by the improved cultivators. Plowing corn with the single-

shovel-plow, was common until a few years ago, but it has had to take its place with the old spinning-wheel and loom, and they are now counted as relics of a past age. Cutting wheat, rye, oats and grass was formerly a laborious process. Even within the recollection of comparatively young men of the county, the scythe and cradle were considered as improved implements of husbandry; but the reaper and mower now in use not only do a much better job but transfers the hardest of the labor to the horses.

The old methods in vogue three thousand years ago, treading out wheat with oxen or knocking it out with flails, were scarcely improved upon until within a comparatively recent date. In the early history of this county these ancient methods prevailed. By-and-by, came the old thresher—the ground-hog, as it was called—that merely knocked the grains from the chaff, leaving the same to be separated by some other process. One of these marvelous old machines has not been seen in Cass County for many a year; but in its place we now have the steam thresher, which not only separates the grain from the chaff and straw, ready for the mill, but sacks and counts the number of bushels, and the next improvement will doubtless be to grind it and bake it into bread.

It is difficult to comprehend how, with corn at from six to ten cents per bushel, oats but little more, wheat at from thirty to fifty, and other products in proportion, with the market at Alton, Chicago and St. Louis, a farmer succeeded in obtaining enough for his products to pay for saving them. It is not so difficult to understand why so much of the county lay for so many years without an occupant. Of course, the farmers in those days did not ride in carriages, pay heavy taxes, wear fine clothes or indulge in many luxuries; but they rode to meeting on horseback or in the farm-wagon, wearing their every-day clothes done

up clean for Sunday, and paid the preacher with a bag of corn or potatoes, or not at all, as they felt able. Yet, to say that they did not live comfortably and independently, would be a great mistake. The rifle supplied, from the timber, venison and other game, and the actual needs of life were all satisfied, though it would seem a great hardship to go back to what some are pleased to call the "good old times."

Cass County has kept up with the improvements, not only in farm machinery, but in the new methods of farming, and no section of the State, perhaps, can boast of a finer state of agriculture than this county. Agricultural fairs and associations have been organized for the general improvement of stock, farm machinery and agriculture.

The Cass County Agricultural Society, was organized in the court house, at Beardstown, January 5, 1856. A preliminary meeting had been held previously, at which a committee on constitution and by-laws had been appointed. The committee made a report at this meeting which was accepted, and at a meeting held in Virginia, June 15, the Constitution, as reported by the committee, was adopted. Ten acres of ground were purchased of Robert Hall, adjoining the town of Virginia, at a cost of \$400, for Fair Grounds. A Fair Ground Association was formed, which leased to the Cass County Agricultural Society, the grounds. The Fair Ground Association was incorporated by special act of the Legislature, approved February 18, 1857. The Association and the Agricultural Society were composed mostly of the same individuals (but were two distinct corporations), and frequently the same set of officers were elected in both.

The first officers of the Agricultural Society elected, were as follows: Francis Arenz, President; Ezra J. Dutch, Treasurer; John W. Sweeney, Secretary; and John W. Seaman, James Hickey, Milton Stribling, John Prunty,

and Ebenezer Fish, Directors. At the next meeting, March 6, 1858, the election resulted as follows: William Stevenson, President; Henry S. Savage, Secretary; Z. W. Gatton, Treasurer; and William Stevenson, David Epler, Thomas Plasters, John W. Seaman, Z. W. Gatton, E. W. Turner, and John Prunty, Directors. March 5, 1859, the old officers were re-elected, and William Stevenson, J. M. Hill, William Petefish, John Prunty, I. M. Stribling, Z. W. Gatton, and John W. Seaman, Directors. At the election March 3, 1860, J. M. Hill was elected President; John W. Seaman, Vice-President; Z. W. Gatton, Treasurer; H. S. Savage, Secretary; and J. M. Hill, N. Seaman, D. J. Cole, J. M. Epler, A. G. Angier, John Prunty and Z. W. Gatton, Directors. No officers were elected in 1861; but on the 2d day of March, the following Directors were elected: John Prunty, William Stevenson, E. W. Turner, J. M. Hill, D. J. Cole, I. M. Stribling and H. H. Hall. March 1, 1862, John M. Epler was elected President; I. M. Stribling, Vice-President; Z. W. Gatton, Treasurer; H. S. Savage, Secretary; and John M. Epler, I. M. Stribling, H. S. Savage, Z. W. Gatton, H. H. Hall and A. G. Angier, Directors. March 7, 1863, Isaac M. Stribling was elected President; D. J. Cole, Vice-President; Z. W. Gatton, Treasurer; H. H. Hall, Secretary; and I. M. Stribling, D. J. Cole, H. H. Hall, Z. W. Gatton, J. M. Epler, S. H. Petefish, A. G. Angier and John Prunty, Directors. The next fair was to be held on the 1st and 2d days of the following September.

At the election held March 5, 1864, D. J. Cole was elected President; Z. W. Gatton, Treasurer; H. H. Hall, Secretary; and Wm. Petefish, A. G. Angier, John Prunty, John W. Seaman, S. H. Petefish and H. S. Savage, Directors.

April 1, 1865, John Prunty was elected President; I. M. Stribling, Vice-President; Z. W. Gatton, Treasurer; H. H. Hall, Secre-

tary; and John Prunty, I. M. Stribling, Z. W. Gatton, William Stevenson, John W. Seaman, J. Dunnaway, James L. Beggs and Samuel Petefish, Directors.

March 2, 1866, John Prunty was re-elected President; Z. W. Gatton, Treasurer; Rufus Rabourn, Secretary; and John Prunty, I. M. Stribling, J. H. Bates, A. G. Angier, J. Dunnaway, H. H. Hall and W. Petefish, Directors. An order was passed to sell the grounds, but there is no further record in regard to such sale.

March 2, 1877, J. W. Seaman was elected President; A. G. Angier, Vice-President; R. W. Rabourn, Secretary; Z. W. Gatton, Treasurer; and I. M. Stribling, William Stevenson, J. H. Bates, J. A. Petefish and H. H. Hall, Directors. There is no record of an election of officers in 1868.

March 6, 1869, J. W. Seaman was elected President; A. G. Angier, Vice-President; R. W. Rabourn, Secretary; E. T. Oliver, Treasurer; and Z. W. Gatton, I. M. Stribling, S. H. Petefish, Robert Hall and D. J. Cole, Directors.

March 5, 1870, old officers re-elected, and Joseph Black, John Prunty, J. A. Petefish, William Stevenson and Robert Hall, Directors.

March 4, 1871, old officers re-elected, and John Prunty, William Stevenson, I. M. Stribling, Robert Hall, and J. A. Petefish, directors.

March 2, 1872, I. M. Stribling was elected President; J. A. Petefish, Vice-president; E. T. Oliver, Treasurer; R. W. Rabourn, Secretary, and John Prunty, A. G. Angier, Robert Stevenson, Robert Hall, and William Stevenson, Directors.

March 1, 1873, Robert Stevenson was elected President; J. M. Epler, Vice-president; Z. W. Gatton, Treasurer; R. W. Rabourn, Secretary; and Robert Hall, John Prunty, I. M. Stribling, A. G. Angier, and J. W. Seaman, Directors.



March 7, 1874, J. M. Epler was elected President; P. A. Baker, Vice-president; R. W. Rabourn, Secretary; J. A. Epler, Treasurer; and T. J. Crum, Robert Hall, T. J. Stribling, and Robert Stevenson, Directors. The time set for the next fair was the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th of September following.

March 6, 1875, J. M. Epler was elected President; T. J. Crum, Vice-president; J. A. Epler, Treasurer, R. W. Rabourn, Secretary; and John Prunty, T. J. Stribling, Robert Hall, Morrison Graves, and Robert Stevenson, Directors.

March 4, 1876, J. W. Seaman was elected President; T. J. Crum, Vice-president; Morrison Graves, Treasurer; R. W. Rabourn, Secretary, and the old directory was re-elected.

March 3, 1877, Morrison Graves was elected President; Robert Hall, Vice-president; R. W. Rabourn, Secretary; S. H. Petefish, Treasurer, and John Prunty, J. B. Stevenson, Oswell Skiles, Robert Hall, C. M. Savage, T. J. Stribling, and M. Graves, Directors.

March 2, 1878, Morrison Graves was elected President; T. J. Crum, Vice-president; R. W. Rabourn, Secretary; S. H. Petefish, Treasurer, and M. Graves, O. Skiles, John Prunty, T. J. Crum, C. E. Lippincott, Robert Stevenson, and W. S. Vance, Directors.

March 1, 1879, J. M. Epler was elected President; P. A. Buraker, Vice-president; O. Skiles, Treasurer; R. W. Rabourn, Secretary, and J. M. Epler, C. W. Savage, Henry Campbell, P. A. Buraker, I. M. Stribling, W. H. Thompson, and Robert Hall, Directors.

March 13, 1880, J. M. Epler was elected President; O. Skiles, Treasurer; R. W. Rabourn, Secretary, and G. A. Beard, T. J. Stribling, C. W. Savage, A. G. Eplar, Robert Hall, Henry Campbell, and John W. McCullough, Directors. The time for holding the next fair was set for the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th of August following.

March 3, 1881, Oswell Skiles was elected President; W. C. Barkley, Vice-president; George Conover, Treasurer; R. W. Rabourn, Secretary, and Oswell Skiles, W. S. Vance, T. J. Stribling, W. C. Barkley, G. W. Rawlings, George Conover, and Morrison Graves, Directors.

The officers for the present year (1882) are as follows: J. M. Epler, President; John A. Jones, Vice-president; G. L. Warlow, Secretary; George Conover, Treasurer, and J. M. Epler, J. A. Jones, M. Graves, R. W. Rabourn, W. S. Vance, J. B. Stevenson, and F. E. Downing, Directors. The next fair will be held September 12, 13, 14 and 15, following. The superintendents of departments, at the next meeting, are as follows: Fine Art Hall—F. E. Downing, and Assistant—Mrs. F. E. Downing; Fruit and Vegetables—Thomas Dunnaway; Preserves, Jellies, etc.—C. W. Black and Alice Dwelle; Agricultural Hall—J. F. Black; Poultry—J. N. Gridley; Sheep and Swine—Robert Stevenson; Horses and Mules—A. G. Epler; Cattle—Watson Sinclair. From preparations already being made the coming meeting will be an interesting one.

The Cass County Park Association was organized a few years ago. This association purchased and now owns the grounds, and leases them out for fairs, races, and for other purposes, as may seem legitimate to the Board of Directors.

The fine stock interest is taking high rank in Cass County, and has grown to large proportions, particularly that of fine cattle. The writer has seen all the fine herds of Short-horn cattle in the famous blue grass region of Kentucky, and in his capacity as historian has visited many of the stock farms of that world-renowned section, but he has seen some cattle in this county that are unsurpassed by Kentucky, or any other state. The herd, for instance, of William Stevenson is, probably,

without a superior in quality in any country. His Short-horn bull, Duke, was purchased of Hutchcraft, one of the most extensive herd-ers of Bourbon County, Kentucky, for \$1,000, when a yearling, and is one of the finest animals of his kind, while Mattie Belle, 2d, calved June 30, 1877, is the finest cow we have seen in the State. But to do justice to Mr. Stevenson's herd would be to particularize every one. He makes a specialty of rearing Short-horns, and like the larger breeders of Kentucky, has his annual sales of all those aside from his regular breeders.

C. E. Lippincott took an active interest a few years ago, in breeding Short-horns, but did not remain long in the business. Mr. J. M. Epler, also, has a small herd of very fine animals, and devotes considerable attention to breeding; also, Watson Sinclair, doing something in the same line, and has several fine animals. The time, doubtless, is near at hand, when Cass County will become famous as a fine stock region, and noted for the rearing of Short-horn cattle. The start made has proven its adaptability to the industry, and shown the value of the business.

A writer on Kentucky Short-horns has the following on the genuine breed: "Short-horns of a true type and good shape, that is to say, level backed, wide crops, wide hips, swelling sides, fine bone, fine tail, neat blood-like appearance, straight lines across the hips, straight from the point of the hock to point of hip near the tail, straight along the belly from the brisket to the end of the flank, smooth shoulders, not sinking at the girt, soft elastic skin, good handlers, placid, calm eye, short in the legs, short tapering horns, waxy horns well set on, quiet disposition, good milkers, clean, clear muzzle, solid colors, either red or roan, these have long been sought after, bred for and purchased when attainable, and breeders with pride in their stock have endeavored to produce them from

the earliest known period in Short-horn history, and it is not surprising that breeders have in the main owned many that were never defeated in the show ring. And as such stock has been the result of much trouble and experiment, so it has and ever will deservedly command high prices. Requiring several generations of judicious crossing, weeding out defects, meting out to the breeders many blanks with the prizes, it is a fascinating pursuit, and is increasing daily the number of its votaries."

It is worth while to notice, in passing, the change in the colors of Short-horns. Most every one, who has paid attention to the matter, can remember that there was a time within their memory that Short-horn cattle were uniformly white and roan, with here and there a red. Take, for example, one of the leading herds of the country in 1851, 1852 and 1853, of fifteen head recorded in Volume II, A. H. B. Eight were roans and seven whites. The same breeder would not allow a white animal to be used on his herd for a *bonus* of \$3,000 a year. Who knows but the style and fashion may change back again into its former channel? It is well to observe that the scarcer and more rare Short-horns of peculiar qualities become, the higher prices they are held at in some quarters. While on the other hand, it is with satisfaction that we observe many new beginners whose names appear at the annual sales, from New York to California, and from Minnesota to Texas, indicating that the people, as a mass, are beginning to appreciate the value of an infusion of thoroughbred blood into scrub herds, and to at last acknowledge that a two-year old thoroughbred, or even high grade, is equal to a three-year-old of common, or mongrel stock.

There is an increasing attention yearly to the improving of other stock in Cass County as well as to cattle. Many thoroughbred horses from Kentucky are being introduced,

among which we have noticed some members of the Mambrino family, one of the finest reared in Kentucky. The original Mambrino Patchen, sold for \$25,000, and Mambrino King, sold at Lexington, Ky., a few weeks ago, for \$15,000. Fine sheep and hogs, also, are being greatly improved, and many of the farmers are devoting special attention to rearing the best breeds of these animals. It is then, not saying too much, to predict for Cass County a brilliant future as a stock-raising region. The start is made, and perseverance will accomplish the rest.

The railroads of the County will be written up in other chapters of this volume. Rail-

roads are the great features that make a country powerful and add to its material wealth and prosperity. The railroads intersecting Cass County, are the Peoria, Pekin and Jacksonville; the Springfield division of Ohio and Mississippi; the St. Louis division of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy; and the Western division of the Chicago and Alton. Thus it will be seen the County is well supplied with these useful internal improvements.

The press of the county, and the war history also, will be found in other and appropriate chapters, together with other subjects of local and general interest.

## CHAPTER VII.

VIRGINIA PRECINCT—DESCRIPTION, BOUNDARIES AND TOPOGRAPHY—WESTERN PIONEER LIFE—SETTLEMENT OF THE PRECINCT BY WHITE PEOPLE—CHARACTER OF THE PIONEERS—THEIR TRIALS, TROUBLES AND HARDSHIPS—EARLY IMPROVEMENTS AND INDUSTRIES—ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—SCHOOLS—THE FIRST SCHOOL HOUSES—EARLY TEACHERS—PRESENT EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES—CHURCHES AND PREACHERS—OLD SHILOH CHURCH—MISCELLANEOUS, ETC.

IT was a beautiful sentiment of Goethe when he compared our little round of being to a summer watering place: "When we first arrive, we form friendships with those who have already spent some time there, and must soon be gone. Their loss is painful, but we content ourselves with the second generation of visitors, with whom we spend some time, and daily become more intimate; but these also depart, and we are left alone with a third set, who arrive just as we are prepared for our departure." This is not inapplicable to the settlement of this section of the country. It is a sad realization of the inscrutable decree that, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return," when we come to collect the history of a county or people. Here, in Virginia Precinct, we look around us for the pioneers, and find most of them sleeping in the quiet graveyard. The first generation of visitors to the "summer watering-place" are mostly gone, and the second and third, and even the fourth generations are crowding on to fill their places. Those of the "first set" who still linger, are bent with age, and a few more rolling years will take them from our sight for ever. Wonderful are the changes wrought since they first beheld this beautiful land, once the home of the lordly savage, and the hunting ground of his kindred. The pioneers, who braved the dangers of "flood and field," to open these broad and product-

ive plains and valleys, have melted away like mists before the morning sun, and are now gathered to the land of dreams. From the few still left, we have gleaned a few facts pertaining to the early settlement of this section, and to pioneer life, which form the subject-matter of this chapter.

Virginia Precinct is rather large, and contains portions of townships 17 and 18, in ranges 9 and 10, west of the 3d principal meridian. It is generally level or undulating, resembling somewhat the swell of the ocean after a storm, and originally comprised both timber land and prairie. On the north it is bounded by Husted Precinct, or Hickory, as now called, and Chandlerville Precinct, on the east by Oregon and Princeton Precincts, on the South by Princeton Precinct and Morgan County, and on the west by Monroe Precinct. It is drained and watered by Clear Creek, Prairie Creek, Little Indian, Job's, Little Panther and Lost Creeks, all tributaries of the Illinois River. The Peoria, Pekin and Jacksonville railroad (now a part of the Wabash system), and the Springfield division of the Ohio and Mississippi railroad, intersect it, crossing at the City of Virginia, the capital of the County, and afford ample accommodations in shipping and transportation.

The settlement of Virginia Precinct dates back to the year 1821, when the first whites came in and commenced the improvement

of the lands. Pioneer life, in all time, has been characterized by incidents peculiar either to the locality or the make-up of the pioneers themselves. Western pioneer life has been subjected to conditions common to the experience of all early settlers. The primary elements in the composition of those who have taken their lives in their own hands and battled successfully with the privations and hardships incident to settlements in the wilderness, without companions, save their "household gods," away from the echoes of civilization, depending for subsistence upon their own good right arms, were will-power, physical vigor and energy. Thus endowed, the brave pioneer boldly cuts loose from the moorings of civilization, turns his face toward the wild, unknown West, and after days and weeks, perhaps months, of weary journeying over trackless prairies, tangled woodland, rocky steeps and through rushing torrents, at last determines the spot where his future home shall be, at once makes a start by erecting a little cabin, breaking a small patch of ground and planting a little corn. Soon he is joined by others, and the feeble settlement becomes the foundation of one of those prosperous communities which are to-day the pride and boast of our western country. But we are digressing from the more specific part of our subject.

Archibald Job, Henry Hopkins and Thos. Redmon, were early settlers in Virginia Precinct. Mr. Job was a native of Maryland, and settled in what he called Sylvan Grove, now the present site of Virginia, in Cass County, in 1820. From an article, in the *Jacksonville Journal*, written by William Thomas in 1874, we extract most of our information concerning Mr. Job. In 1822 he was elected to the legislature from the district, composed of the county of Greene, and the territory afterward included in Morgan County, and again in 1824, from the counties of Morgan and Greene.

In 1826 he was elected to the Senate from the district composed of the counties of Morgan, Pike, Adams, Schuyler, Fulton and Peoria. During this service of eight years, his constituents never had cause to regret his election, nor to complain of his want of devotion to their interests. He maintained the character of an honest, fearless, intelligent and industrious representative. In 1830, he was again a candidate for the Senate, but was defeated, not because of any complaint of his previous action, or of any want of confidence in his ability and integrity, but because the Whig party, with which he was identified, was in the minority. Upon the passage of the law providing for the building of the State House at Springfield, because of his known integrity and intelligence, he was appointed one of the State house commissioners. At the time of his death he was about ninety years of age. Mrs. Job, it is said, never saw the face of a white woman for six months after landing in this county. She used to say that she had very good neighbors among the Indians, who were then numerous in this section. Their nearest neighbors lived fifteen miles distant, and St. Louis was their post office. Mr. Clark came in 1827 and settled at North Grove, three miles west of the present town of Virginia. In 1836 he moved to Iowa, but in 1840 returned to Cass County, and settled again in the neighborhood. He afterward removed to Bluff Springs, where he died in 1852.

Hopkins was a native of Delaware, and emigrated first to Woodford County, Kentucky, then to Clarke County, Indiana. From there he removed to Morgan County, Illinois, in 1825, and located in Sugar Grove the next year, and which was in Virginia Precinct until a few years ago, when Philadelphia Precinct was formed. He lived there until in 1875, then removed into Virginia, and died in 1879, at the age of eighty-five years. He was married in 1817, and his widow still sur-

vives him at the age of eighty-four, and is the mother of twelve children, ten of whom are now living.

About the year 1825-26, William Holmes came to the precinct, and was followed the next year by Thomas Redmon, Benjamin Stribling, and a man named Street. Holmes was from New York, and made his home with Hopkins until his marriage, in 1828-29. They improved their land in common, and for several years farmed in partnership. He was a man of intelligence, of considerable public spirit, and a graduate of an Eastern college; probably the first college graduate who ever settled in Cass County. He commenced his public career as a school teacher in his own immediate neighborhood. He served as county surveyor, and as the first representative in the legislature from Cass County, after its formation in 1837. Redmon settled about half a mile south of Hopkins', and was from Logan County, Kentucky. Although a man of quite ordinary intellect, he was very pious, upright, a kind of exhorter or local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and took an active part in molding the society of his day and generation. He died about 1840, and is without relatives or descendants now in this region. Stribling was also from Logan County, Kentucky, and first located near the present village of Liter, now in Morgan County, but in 1829 bought out Street, who had settled and improved the farm now owned by J. M. Stribling. After selling out to Stribling, Street moved about a mile and a half west, and improved another place, upon which was built one of the primitive grist mills of Cass County. He left about 1834, and went to Iowa, where he was lost sight of long since. None of his descendants now live in the county.

Among other pioneers of this precinct, may be mentioned Anthony Thomas, Col. A. S. West, Joshua P. Crow, Thomas S. Berry,

Benjamin Cauby, Berry Freeman, a man named Paschall, and others whose names are now forgotten. Anthony Thomas came about 1827-28 and located on what is now known as the Frotter farm, lying on the south side of Sugar Grove. He sold out in 1840 and removed with his family to the Rock River Country. Sugar Grove and Sylvan Grove, which have been several times referred to, were two bodies of timber, situated about three or four miles southeast of the present city of Virginia.

Col. West came in about 1828, and improved the farm now owned by Cain Owens, lying north of the city, and partly inside of the corporate limits. He was a very enterprising and active business man, and was the second representative in the legislature, from Cass County, succeeding Mr. Holmes in that august body. He was for a time a merchant in the town of Virginia, and traded extensively in cattle and pork, a business he commenced in 1839. Like many other good business men, he failed in the financial crash of 1840-42. Crow first settled where William Campbell now lives, in 1828-29, to whom he sold out, and afterwards moved to Missouri. He served for a number of years as a justice of the peace. In 1843, he was the Democratic candidate against John W. Pratt, for the State Legislature, but was defeated by 27 votes.

Thomas S. Berry emigrated to Cass County, from near Fredericksburg, Virginia, a distance of about nine hundred miles. He came through on horseback, with his entire possessions in a pair of saddle-bags, and reached Benjamin Stribling's in November, 1829, where he spent the winter. He assisted Stribling in gathering corn in the field, and bringing it in to feed stock, and the remainder of his time he spent in hunting. He taught school about two years, worked on a farm by the mouth, and in August, 1833, assisted his father,

William S. Berry, to remove his family to Cass County. In 1834, he bought a farm in Virginia Precinct, on which he resided until his death in 1847. James Berry came to Cass County in 1830, from Orange County, Virginia. He taught school and worked on a farm until 1833, when he purchased land of L. T. Bryant; he died in 1849. Benjamin Cauby came to Virginia Precinct in 1830, and was a Cumberland Presbyterian preacher. He organized, or rather reorganized old Shiloh Church; was a zealous Christian and an able minister. He died in 1845, in the prime of life. Freeman and Paschall were brothers-in-law, and settled a little northeast of town, about 1830. They were both thrifty and industrious men, and bore an active part in subduing the country, and opening it up to civilization. The only son of Freeman was a lieutenant in Company D, One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, in the late civil war, and was captured at Guntown, Mississippi. He was put on a train with other captured officers, and started south to prison, but jumped from the train while running at the rate of twenty miles an hour, and made his escape from the guards. After spending a week in wandering through the country, he finally found his way to a camp of Union soldiers, and was sent at once to his regiment, with which he served until the close of the war.

Charles Oliver, Thomas Gatton, John Epler and Jacob Petefish, were also early settlers of Virginia Precinct; but first located on Little Indian, in what is now Princeton Precinct, where they will be further noticed. Epler came from Pennsylvania, and has a good many descendants still in the county. Gatton came from Maryland, and was one of the early merchants of the county. Oliver came to Virginia in 1835, and was for a time a clerk for Dr. Hall. Mr. Petefish also has a number of descendants in the county. There are

many others, doubtless, who deserve mention among the early settlers of the precinct, but their names have faded from the memories of the pioneers still left among us. Many, in fact most of the first settlers of the precinct who were prominently identified with its early history, have passed away "as a tale that is told." A few have scattered to other lands, but far the greater number have gone to the land of dreams.

When the first settlements were made here game was plenty, and the people depended mostly on it for meat; game and corn-bread, with wild honey, constituted the almost universal diet for several years. The clothing worn by both the male and female members of the family, was manufactured at home by the women, on the old fashioned spinning-wheel, cards and loom. The men dressed deer skins, out of which were made pantaloons, hunting shirts and moccasins; they made shoes from leather tanned at home by themselves; of course this kind of material made rather a rough shoe, but being the best that could be procured, they were content; in fact, such shoes best suited the rough jaunts taken on foot by many of the pioneers through brush, briers, swamps and grass, wet with dew and rain.

Everything not manufactured at home was termed a "store" article, as "store shoes," "store hat," etc., and any one attired in "store clothes," excited envy in the younger members of the community, and many a young lass, when appearing in public, considered herself highly honored if so fortunate as to secure the attention of a "feller" arrayed in "store clothes," furnishing striking instance of that weakness in human nature, quite as common in this enlightened age—that of judging persons by external appearances.

In those early days, the people managed to get along without nails, glass, sawed lumber

or brick, for the reason they could not procure them. Their houses were small, consisting of one story, built of logs or poles, unhewed, with the ends projecting from six inches to two feet at the corners, and the cracks between the logs were filled with sticks and daubed with clay. The doors were made of boards fastened in place with wooden pegs and hung with wooden hinges. A wooden latch raised by a string, served as a fastening; the string had one end tied to the latch and the other passed through a small hole above it, and when the door was fastened, one end of the string was hanging out. "The latch-string out" was the pioneers' emblem of hospitality. The fireplaces were from six to ten feet in width, and in them large logs blazed on winter nights, warming the entire household. At one side of these capacious hearths, one article always stood conspicuous, viz: the kettle of "blue dye," with which the old ladies colored their "yarn" for weaving. This kettle being covered with an old barrel head, or something of the kind, often did service as a seat for some members of the family, and even for visitors. Young fellows, when on courting expeditions, sometimes found it a very convenient seat with the objects of their affections in close proximity. "Some of the best men of our country," an old gentleman informed us, who had probably been there himself, "wooded and won their brides, seated on a kettle of 'blue dye,' by the blazing fire of the backwoodsman's rude cabin." On the outside of the houses, it was no uncommon thing to see a goodly number of raccoon and deer skins "stretched" against the wall to dry, and occasionally the skin of a wild cat, wolf or bear. The projecting ends of the logs, at each corner of the cabin, served as places to hang the various utensils used on the farm, such as hoes, rakes, bridles and harness, or "gears," as they were then called.

The first improvement of importance to the

pioneer, after he has erected a shelter for himself and family, is a mill, an industry that always advances with civilization. Judge Shaw tells us in his centennial address on Cass County, that the first mill accessible to the pioneers of the county was Jarvoe's mill on Cahokia Creek, and that in 1821 a mill was erected on Indian Creek, and later a horse-mill was erected at Clary's Grove, in Menard County. These mills served the people in this section until able to build mills for themselves. One of the first in this precinct, of which we have any account, was built by a Mr. Street, about 1831-2, on the southeast quarter of section 29, town 18 and range 10. It was a primitive affair, but, as we were informed, was "better than none at all." H. H. Hall built a water grist mill some two miles northeast of the present city of Virginia, about 1838, on Job Creek. It was for grinding corn and wheat, and had but one run of burrs, driven by a horizontal water-wheel with upright shaft. Its capacity was about eight to ten bushels per hour. As population increased, and the community became wealthy, other mills were built for the accommodation of the growing population. Other improvements were made in the precinct. Roads were laid out, and put in order, thus rendering travel a less task than formerly, and where they crossed streams and sloughs, bridges were built. Good roads now pass through the precinct in every direction, diverging from the county seat, and while they do not compare with macadamized roads, they are about as good as Illinois soil will make without artificial aid.

The pioneer fathers were alive to the advantages of education, and lost no time in establishing schools in the different settlements. Mr. Keiling Berry is authority for the fact that a school was taught in the precinct as early as 1830. During the first few years after settlements were made, there were no



schoolhouses or churches built in the precinct. Schools were taught in abandoned cabins, and conducted on the subscription plan. The teacher made out his proposition on paper, and the parents "signed" as many scholars as they had, or could afford to pay for, agreeing to pay a specified sum for tuition a certain number of months. The first school taught in the precinct, so far as we have learned, was taught by William Holmes, in one of these abandoned cabins, at Sugar Grove, Mr. Berry says, about the year 1830. Keiling Berry himself taught a subscription, or on the select school plan, from November 19, 1839, to September 1, 1840, in a log cabin still standing on the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 27, township 17, and range 10. This is doubtless the oldest building now standing in the neighborhood, used as a temple of learning. The Angier school house which stood on the northwest corner of section 4, is believed to have been the first built in the precinct, especially for school purposes. It was erected by the people of the community by their own mutual labor, and afterward became the property of the district. It was burned some eight or ten years ago.

School facilities increased with the advancing tide of immigration, and new houses were built as they were needed. At the present time there are some half a dozen school houses in the precinct outside of the city of Virginia. These are good, comfortable houses, fitted up with modern furniture, and present quite a contrast to those of fifty years ago.

There are at present two churches in Virginia precinct outside of the city. Shiloh Cumberland Presbyterian Church is located some three and a half miles west of the city of Virginia, and was built in 1857. The congregation was organized at the house of Nathan Compton, in Jersey Prairie, in Morgan County, in the fall of 1827, by the Rev.

J. M. Berry. After the congregation was permanently organized, it was attached to the Sangamon Presbytery, and was represented in the semi-annual meetings of that body, from time to time, until about the year 1835. Hitherto the church had been supplied with preaching, chiefly by Revs. Berry and William M. Cord, the latter of whom died in August, 1833. Rev. Benjamin Cauby, who moved into the bounds of the church about the year 1830, began to preach to this and neighboring societies after Mr. McCord's decease. Mr. Compton, one of the first elders, had moved away, and the records of the church were either lost or mislaid. Under this state of affairs, Rev. Cauby deemed it proper to re-organize the congregation, which was done in 1837, at the Shiloh meeting house, and which had been built upon land donated by Mr. Cauby for that purpose. The following resolution was adopted: "*Whereas*, We, the undersigned, believe it to be our privilege and duty to attach ourselves to some branch of the church of God and, so far as we have read and examined, the government and discipline of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church also believing that it agrees with our views most in accordance with Apostolic mode, do and hereby order our names to be enrolled as members of the Mount Pleasant Congregation of the Presbyterian Church." Following are the names of those who signed: Rev. Benjamin Cauby, Joseph Cauby and wife, Abner Timing, Richard Matthews, Sarah Street, Susan and Mary Beasley, Nancy Morgan, D. A. McCord, Ann, Elizabeth, Sarah and Eliza Jane McCord, Elizabeth Thompson, Sarah Fraesell, James B. Thompson, William and Sarah Lowrance, Margaret Schaffer, Richard D. and John B. Thompson, Amanda Matthews, Samuel B., Matilda, Matilda J., and Sarah J. Thompson, Catharine Pratt, and H. S. Schaffer.

The present elders of the church are: L.

McNeil, Henry Bierkause, and Daniel Biddlecome. The church has now forty members, under the pastorate of Rev. J. E. Roach, and a good comfortable church building.

A Sunday-school of about twenty-five pupils is carried on in connection with the church. Daniel Biddlecome is the present superintendent, a position he has held for the past twelve years. The school was held at the Union school-house until within the past two years, when it was removed to the church where the church organ adds a pleasant accompaniment to the singing and to the general interest of the school.

Bethlehem Methodist Church is located

about three miles south of Virginia, on the road to Jacksonville. It was built more than thirty years ago, and was originally a kind of union church, being used by several denominations, but for many years has been occupied only by the Methodists.

Virginia Precinct contains the county-seat of the county, and as is usually the case, much of the history of the precinct centers in the county seat, leaving but little to say in the preliminary chapter, beyond the mere settlement of the precinct, and the mention of a few minor topics. With this brief sketch of Virginia precinct, we will close this chapter, and in a new one take up the city's history.

## CHAPTER VIII.

CITY OF VIRGINIA—ITS BIRTH, LOCATION AND GROWTH—SALE OF LOTS, AND ADDITIONS TO THE TOWN—DR. HALL, FOUNDER OF VIRGINIA—FIRST HOUSE AND STORE—PUBLIC SQUARE AND COURT HOUSE—BUSINESS IN THE WEST END—THE PRESENT BUSINESS CENTRE—HOTELS, MILLS, ETC.—DOCTORS AND LAWYERS—BANKING BUSINESS—INCORPORATION OF THE CITY—MUNICIPAL OFFICES—SUMMARY ETC., ETC.

IN historic annals we are enabled to measure social progress. Society, as it circles outward from a common centre, has a tendency to degenerate from its original and higher type to one of a lower tone and standard. History reveals the fact that every ascending circle of civilization has lessened the forces tending and completing a perfect state of society. On nearly every wave of immigration some good seed is borne to grow up in the opening soil of the new country. The good seed is usually sufficient to begin the work of raising society to a higher level of civilization, and their transforming power counteracts those demoralizing influences which tend to social degeneration and disruption, as the lawless and vicious seek the frontiers, where there is less restraint from civil power. This good seed becomes the nucleus around which gather those influences necessary to carry society onward to a state of comparative perfection. By a comparison with the rude and rough societies of the past, we may see how much has been done in this respect. The moral and social standard of the community afford unbounded evidence that much good seed has fallen in this locality.

The city of Virginia, to which this chapter is devoted, and the county seat of Cass County, is beautifully situated in a fine region of country, near the geographical cen-

tre of the county, and is surrounded by some of the best and most productive farms in the State. The Peoria, Paris & Jacksonville Railroad, and the Springhead division of the Ont. & Mississippi, cross here, and furnish the citizens of the place, and the farmers of the adjacent neighborhood, ample facilities for shipping, as well as travel.

Virginia was laid out by Dr. H. H. Hall, who owned the land upon which it is located. It was surveyed by Johnston C. Sutherland, May 11, 1836, and the original plat occupied a portion of township 17, range 10, west. The first sale of lots was made August 6, 1836, and the records show that Joel Horn purchased lot 5; E. B. Genery, lot 6; George Garlick, lot 7; M. H. Beaches, lots 8 and 9; Isaiah Paschal, lot 10; J. B. Genery, lot 11; Zedeciah Wood, lots 12, 13, and 14; Franklin Marshall, lot 15; William S. Horn, lot 16; Henry T. Foster, lot 17; L. S. Saunders, lot 18; Joel Horn, lot 19; William Quigg, lot 20, etc., etc. Dr. Hall made an addition to the town, which was surveyed and platted July 1, 1837, and on the 31st of August the sale of lots in this addition took place.

A number of them were sold on the day of the sale, and the remainder before the close of the year. The town, on a new planet, in a sparsely settled district, grew rapidly, and did not become a place of considerable business.

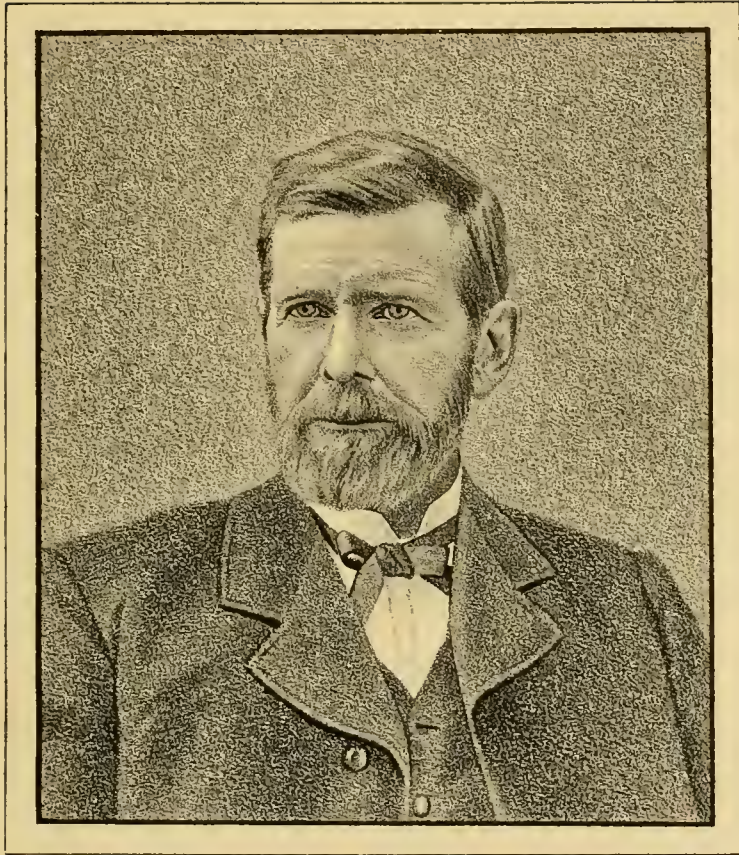
Dr. Hall, the proprietor and founder of Virginia, was a native of Ireland, and a regular graduated physician. He served for a time as surgeon in the British navy, and in that capacity came here in the war of 1812, remaining in this country after its close, and in 1818 settling in Virginia. He remained a citizen of the Old Dominion until his removal to Illinois in 1835. He first visited the West in 1831, and during his stay entered several hundred acres of land, upon a portion of which the city of Virginia now stands. Returning to his home, he remained there until 1835, when he removed to Illinois and settled upon the lands he had already entered here, and the next year laid out the town of Virginia, which he called after the State he had first chosen for his home after becoming a citizen of the United States. Up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1847, he was the ruling spirit of the growing town, and one of its chief business men, fully alive to its interests, as well as to those of the county, and manifesting his zeal by encouraging all enterprises looking to the development and improvement of the common country and to his own county. He built the first house within the present limits of the city, and prior to the laying out of the place. It stood on what is now Springfield street, one block east of the public square, and was a frame building a story and a half high. He was not only the first settler of the town of Virginia, but was also the first merchant, and opened the first store in the place in 1836, having for a clerk at the time Charles Oliver, afterward a prominent merchant himself. The first sale made from Dr. Hall's store was by Mr. Oliver, and consisted of three pairs of shoes for the family of Wm. S. Berry, and the purchase of which was made by his son, Keiling Berry, still a well known citizen of Virginia.

An addition of public grounds was made by Dr. Hall, surveyed by Wm. Holmes, coun-

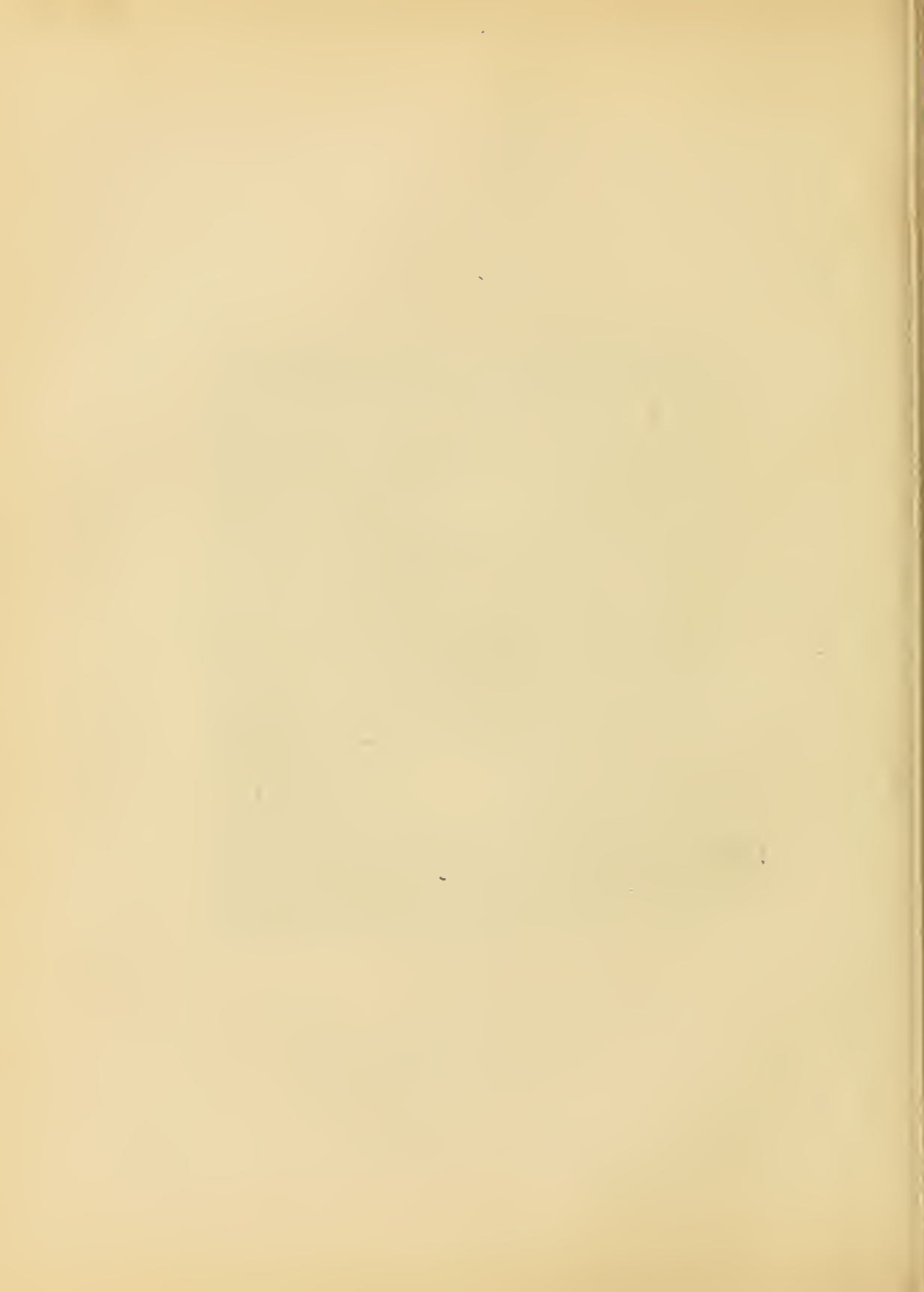
ty surveyor, on the 21st of June, 1838. Virginia had then become the county seat, and Mr. Holmes drove down a stake in the center of the public square, as the spot whereon the court house should be built. The addition comprised fifteen acres, donated by Dr. Hall, and deeded to the commissioners of Cass County for public buildings. A court house was erected on the square, and after the county seat was moved back to Beardstown, the house and grounds were sold to the town for school purposes, and with the house rebuilt, are still so used. Originally the business section was in the western part of town, and there still remains many traces of the old business houses around the square, now the school grounds, as the laying out of a square and the erection of a court house drew the business around it.

Hall & Thomas made an addition to Virginia, May 15, 1839; surveyed and platted by John Clark, county surveyor. The same parties made another addition June 12, 1856; it was surveyed by John Craig, and acknowledged before Henry Rabourn, a justice of the peace. Robert Hall has made several additions; one surveyed by John Craig, June 26, 1856, and another platted by the same surveyor August 29, 1859, and acknowledged before Squire Henry Rabourn. Barton & Wood made an addition June 21, 1856; surveyed by R. C. Crumpton. H. H. Hall, Jr., made an addition March 5, 1866, which was surveyed by J. T. Dunbar, county surveyor. Several other additions have been made by different parties, until at the present day, Virginia covers enough ground for a city of ten thousand inhabitants.

When the court house was built in the square now occupied as the city school, the business was drawn around it as it is now around the present square, and as we have said, some of the old business houses are still standing, and there are traces of others. No



*S. H. Petepish*



one with an eye for the glorious and beautiful it can see any improvement made, either in location or beauty, by the removal from the "West End Square" to the present business location. Hall's, we have seen, was the first store opened. Charles Oliver was a clerk in Hall's store, but in a year or two went into business on his own account. He kept the second store in Virginia, and remained a merchant of the place for many years. His store was on the southwest corner of the old square, south of Beardstown street, while N. B. Thompson—probably the next merchant—had his store on the same corner, but north of Beardstown street. Portions of these old buildings are still standing, but with changes are now dwellings, or parts of dwelling-houses. Dr. Hathaway opened a drug-store on the northwest corner of the old square, the first one in Virginia. Other branches of business were established, and other stores were opened. The house, or the brick part of it, where Harry Thompson now lives, was a store-house with a hall in the second story, that used to witness strange events during the late unpleasantness. The old-fashioned brick, a little further east from Thompson's, and on the same side of the street, was also a store-house. Thus, a quarter of a century ago, was a busy town, where now are but a few private residences around a beautiful square, in which stands a rather dilapidated looking temple of learning.

Charles Oliver, the second merchant, sprang from a family of merchants. His father was a heavy importer, and two uncles—brothers of his father—were wholesale merchants of Philadelphia, while four of his sons were merchants. One of these sons—William A., opened the first store on the south side of the present public square, in the Mead building, now occupied by J. O. Hammer as a saloon. He had entered Dr. Hathaway's drug store, and after becoming familiar with the business,

not having means to go into the drug business, his father divided his own stock of goods with him, giving him some five or six hundred dollars worth of goods out of his store, which he opened out, as we have said, on the south side of the present square. Influences were at work then, which eventually resulted in the removal of the business to its present location, affording at least one instance of the star of empire moving eastward instead of westward.

Jake Dunnaway, who was a mail contractor, had purchased the stage-stand in Virginia, which was then kept in what is now the Virginia house, or a part of it, and this was one of the influences in moving the business in this direction. The proposed Illinois river railroad was another. These, together with other inducements, which finally culminated when the county-seat was moved to Beardstown, accomplished the change. N. B. Thompson, whose store we have mentioned as standing on the southwest corner of the old square, and a man of keen penetration in business affairs, saw the tendency of the town to move eastward, and built a store house on the south side of the present square. He did not occupy it, however, but rented it to other parties, and continued at his old stand sometime longer. Finally he moved his store house, now a part of the city hotel, from the old square, to the site of the hotel on the north side of the present square, and opened his store in it, though there was no other house then in the vicinity. But, he said, his trade would follow him wherever he went, an assertion that proved true, as he was one of the successful merchants of the town for many years. Milton Trotter built the first brick store house on the present square, which is known on the plats as "Washington Fountain Square." It comprises two stores below and Trotter's hall above. After this time business built up rapidly in the new local ty,

and business houses were erected, until the present state of improvement was reached. The war between the east and west ends, which was carried on with considerable ardor at times, after the removal of the county-seat back to Beardstown, in 1845, gradually subsided, and the east end became the established scene of business and trade.

Mr. Hall, besides building the first store house and residence, built also the first tavern in the town, which was first kept by Powell & Beadles. With many changes and improvements, modernizations, etc., until but little of the original building is left, it is now the Virginia House, and is kept at present by J. B. Craft. It, and the City Hotel, kept by the jolly and genial John Gore, are the hotels of the town.

A post-office was established at Virginia, and L. F. Sanders was appointed postmaster. It was a primitive affair, with its one and two mails a week, presenting quite a contrast to Mr. Wilson's well-arranged and lucrative office.

The first steam mill within the corporate limits of Virginia was built by N. B. Burs. It was a modern two-run mill, and did good work until 1852-3, when it was burned. The city was without a mill then until the present one was built by Armstrong & Beasley, some twenty years ago. It became the property of Jacob Dunnaway, who sold it to Mr. Cosgro, the present owner, in 1871. He remodeled and improved it in every respect, and made it thoroughly a first-class mill. Originally it had but one run of buhrs, but Mr. Cosgro has added two more, and all the latest improved machinery, purifiers, Moline cleaning machinery, etc. He makes the patent process flour as well as straight grade flour, and turns out at the rate of forty barrels every twelve hours. The production of his mill is consumed mostly at home, though he ships considerably at certain seasons of the year,

and grinds winter wheat altogether. Mr. Cosgro learned the milling business in New York State, at Albany, Oswego, etc., and came West in 1860, stopping at Peoria, where he was engaged in the Fort Clark and City Mills, coming to this city in 1871, as stated above.

There is an inevitable meanness in every grand event, and homeliness of detail in each heroic life, which time does not wholly erase. We go a thousand miles away to get the mountain's height, and we are, it may be, too near the men and things of which we write. It is difficult to compose a history of the city on perspective, and, like a Chinese draughtsman, leave the background and shadow out. Any one can be wise for yesterday, for he has results to guide his judgment. But Virginia's yesterday is long gone by, and her history has lost much of the morning freshness. The incidents of its first years, however, are as freely canvassed as those of the present. Each feeling and prejudice has been nursed to keep it warm.

Dr. Hall was the first physician. Although he had graduated from the best schools and colleges of Europe, and had served in the British navy, he never practiced his profession after settling here, except in case of extreme emergency, but devoted himself to other business interests. Dr. M. H. L. Schooley was the next physician, and commenced practice about 1836. He was the first who opened a doctor's office, as Dr. Hall did not practice. He graduated at Philadelphia Medical College, and continued in practice in Virginia until 1867, when he removed to Cass County, Mo., where later he died. Dr. Lord came about 1846, and practiced some three years in partnership with Schooley. Dr. Tate came in 1841. He was a graduate of the Medical College of Ohio (Cincinnati), in the class of 1840. Dr. Hathaway came in 1844, and kept the first drug store opened in the town;



Dr. Snyder came in 1863. The last named has a fine museum which he values very highly, and indeed, there are very few such private collections to be found in the country. At the present time there are six practicing physicians in Virginia, viz.: Drs. Tate, Goodspeed, Snyder, Hubbard, Colladay, and Smith.

“When lawyers take what they would give;  
When doctors give what they would take;

\* \* \* \* \*  
Till then let Cummings blaze away,  
And Miller's saints blow up the globe;  
But when you see that happy day,  
Then order your ascension robe.”

The first lawyer was Mr. Friend, who opened an office here in 1836. He was licensed to practice, and was a very successful lawyer. R. S. Thomas, probably the next lawyer, came in 1839, and was a brother to Judge Jesse B. Thomas, one of the early United States senators from Illinois. R. S. Thomas was a man of considerable energy. He was president of the old Illinois River Railroad Co.; was elected to the legislature in 1847, and for a time was editor of a Whig paper, the *Cass County Times*. He remained in Virginia until 1865, when he removed to Chicago, where he died about 1869. Mark W. Delaha was another of the early lawyers, and located in Virginia in 1844. He was a man of ability, a fine orator, and a most radical Whig, and edited, for a while, the first paper established in Virginia, *The Chronicle*, an ultra Whig paper. Lee Carpenter, J. N. Gridley and R. W. Mills came in at a later date. The bar of Virginia comprises now some nine members, as follows: J. N. Gridley, R. W. Mills, A. A. Leeper, G. L. Warlow, Henry Phillips, George Martin, W. H. Thacker, C. M. Tinney and Charles Martin.

The banking business is represented in Virginia by three banks, firmly established, and comprising considerable capital.

The Farmers National Bank, of Virginia,

was organized in 1865, with the following officers: S. S. Vance, president; H. H. Hall, vice-president, and John H. Wood, cashier; the first board of directors were S. S. Vance, H. H. Hall, I. M. Stribling, William Stevenson, John A. Petefish, N. B. Thompson and A. G. Angier. The capital was originally \$50,000, and the circulation \$45,000, but in 1869 the capital was increased to \$150,000, and the circulation to \$145,000. In 1876, Mr. Wool resigned his position as cashier, and organized the Centennial National Bank, and Mr. J. T. Robertson was appointed cashier in his stead, which position he now holds.

July 16, 1867, H. H. Hall was elected president, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Vance, which position he held for two years. A. G. Angier succeeded Mr. Hall; John A. Petefish and John Robertson held the position of president one year each, succeeding Angier. Then George Gatton for one year, Angier again for one year, then Gatton for three years. In January, 1874, George Virgin was elected president, and has continued in the position to the present time. The present board of directors are: George Virgin, William Stevenson, Z. W. Gatton, Robert Taylor, J. G. Rexrout, John Robertson and J. T. Robertson. Z. W. Gatton, an old resident of the county, has been connected with the bank almost from the time of its organization to date, as a director or officer.

The bank building which this bank now owns, is as good a banking-room as may be found in Central Illinois. A pleasing feature of the institution is the kind and courteous book-keeper, Miss Virgin, whose pleasant face is always to be seen above the book-keeper's desk.

Petefish, Skiles & Co., is one of the leading banking houses in Cass County, and was organized as a private bank in 187 , by Samuel H. Petefish, Ignatius Skiles and Jacob Epler.

It commenced business under rather unfavorable circumstances at that time, having to contend with old established banks in adjoining towns, as well as with a local bank. The office was placed in charge of Mr. Richard Elliott, as cashier, who continued with the firm for two years. At the end of the first year, Mr. Epler retired, and the business was continued for some eight months, when Mr. George Virgin was admitted as a partner. In September, 1822, the management of the business was transferred to Mr. E. T. Oliver, who was also admitted as a member of the firm, and who has continued to act as cashier up to the present time. The copartnership continued until April, 1873, when Ignatius Skiles, one of the leading members of the firm died, leaving interest in the business which was continued by his administrator until September, 1875, when Oswell Skiles was admitted as a member of the firm to take his brother's place. In March, 1876, Mr. George Virgin retired, and Messrs. William Campbell and George Crum became members of the firm—it being composed of Samuel H. Petefish, Oswell Skiles, Edward T. Oliver, William Campbell and George Crum, who have composed the firm from the latter date up to the present time. Although numerous changes of personal members, the firm name has remained the same from the first, and it has become as thoroughly known and established in the county as any public institution.

The bank has had a varied career in point of business; it has gone through panics, depressed and prosperous times, and through all has maintained its high standard of credit and fair dealing, at all times paying particular attention to the development of the local industries and enterprises, as well as aiding its customers to successfully manage their private business. While not being organized as a corporation, it has always been rated as high in credit and business ability as any of the

leading banks in Central Illinois, and at all times employing sufficient capital to supply the legitimate demands of business men who are dealing with it. The private means of the members of the firm are stated at over three hundred thousand dollars, composed of personal property, moneys and credits, and unencumbered real estate, of the latter of which they own near five thousand acres of the best improved lands in the county, and all of which represents their credit in the banking business, as they are individually liable for all the business transacted at the bank-counter. This fact alone has added largely to their long list of customers, as they well know no financial crisis can affect their interests when so thoroughly protected by private wealth.

In February, 1881, the firm bought out the banking house and business of Messrs. H. T. Chandler & Co., of Chandlerville, and received as a local member of the firm at that place, Mr. W. K. Mertz, who had been in the office for some nine years, and opened the doors of the new firm of Petefish, Skiles & Mertz, February 1, 1881. Having placed the business upon a firm financial basis, and practically changed the workings of the former office, the public soon appreciated the efforts the new firm were making to furnish them first-class banking facilities, and the rapid increase of business has attested the value of their regard. The business is under the immediate management of Mr. Mertz, but the general direction is from the head firm at Virginia, whose large acquaintance and business experience enable them to furnish all accommodations needed, and to supply all demands in a proper manner.

For some time it had been apparent to the home office that a bank was needed at Ashland, and acting upon their own judgment in the matter, in addition to urgent requests from the business men of that place and vi-

cinity, they, in September, 1881, established a private bank in that town, under the firm name of Skiles, Rearick & Co., being composed of the present firm at Virginia, and receiving as an additional member, Mr. Walter S. Rearick, of Beardstown, who for some eight years had been connected with the Cass County bank at that place. Being successful in securing the services of a practical business man, the office was, upon September 5, 1881, opened to the public; not having time to provide a suitable office for transacting their business, the firm for three months occupied the rear part of a drug store in the place, during which time the builders were rapidly at work erecting a neat office building, which was occupied by the firm about the 5th of December. The immense corn business at that point, and the mercantile trade growing out of it, demanded good banking facilities, and the satisfaction of the customers of the bank shows it has been rendered equal to all demands. Like the Chandlerville office, the immediate management of the business is conducted by the local member, Mr. Rearick; but the control and direction of it proceeds from the home office, and the firm feel very well pleased with the present business now in their hands at that place, and only hope their efforts to accommodate their present line of customers may be the means of enlarging their list of patrons.

Such is a short synopsis of the business of this firm, which has grown from a small beginning to be the most extensive in Cass County, and equal to the largest in other important counties. Its business interests diversifies into all the different neighborhoods in the county, and its credit is now as well-known abroad as it is at home. With ample means and unlimited credit, it is so situated as to thoroughly put through any business enterprise it may undertake, and the business ability of the individual members of the firm,

gives increased confidence to its patrons. To Mr. Samuel H. Petefish, the only living member of the original firm, is due in a great part the present prosperity of the business, and who at all times has the interest of the county as his objective point. Being the prime mover in the organization of the bank, he naturally feels very proud of its present proportions, and at is all times ready to advance the interests of its customers.

Each member of the firm feels the responsibility resting upon him, in having the surplus wealth of so many of the citizens of the county deposited with them for safe keeping, and to keep their honor and credit untarnished, and attend properly and in a business manner to the demands of their patrons, is their chief aim in the management of the business.

The Centennial National Bank was incorporated April 11, 1876, with the following officers and directors, viz: A. G. Angier, John A. Petefish, Daniel Biddlecome, T. J. Crum, J. H. Bates, A. Struble, Robt. Hall, W. L. Black and Thomas Dunnaway. John A. Petefish was elected president, and John H. Wood, cashier. The original stockholders were, John Fielding, D. R. Downing, W. M. Gorellery, Thos. Dunnaway, Daniel Biddlecome, Wm. Lindsey, John A. Petefish, A. G. Angier, Cyrus Crum, G. W. Goodspeed, John Epler, A. G. Epler, Wm. Epler, John A. Jones, N. W. Spillman, Geo. A. Woodworth, P. M. Petefish, J. F. Black, Joseph Wilson, James Thompson, T. J. Crum, J. W. Savage, W. L. Black, Geo. A. Beard, J. H. Bates, Henry Quigg, Amos Cox, Robert Hall, A. Struble, John Edwards, J. H. Tureman, R. W. Mills, Mrs. M. S. Caldwell, A. C. Angier, Jno. H. Melone, Mary E. Henderson, John D. McHenry, E. A. Gridley, T. J. Nesbitt and A. S. Montgomery. A portion of the above names are not on the rolls now, and in addition to those given, are the following, who

have since come in: Maria Cunningham, B. Fielding, Martha B. C. Downing, Henry Philips, Mrs. E. J. H. Tomlin, Thos. Mead, A. Petefish and G. W. Crum. The capital stock was \$60,000 until 1877, when it was reduced to \$50,000, with a circulation of \$45,000. The bonds were bought when they were high, and depreciated to such an extent, that they absorbed the earnings of the bank up to 1879, when the first dividend was declared, which was ten per cent. An annual dividend has been declared every year since of eight per cent. During the past four years the business of the bank has more than doubled.

John A. Petefish continued as president until his death, May 24, 1880, when A. G. Angier became president, a position he still holds. T. J. Crum is vice-president at present. John H. Wood continued cashier until June 15, 1878, when he resigned, and the present incumbent, Mr. James B. Black, took his place.

We have noted the beginning of business in Virginia, and traced it from an insignificant village store to the present large and increasing business and trade.

The town boasts no manufacturing enterprises, to speak of, unless it be the tile factory, now in the course of construction, and which will be, when completed, a good thing for the city, as it will be the beginning of manufacturing industries. It is manufacturing that makes a town, and the discovery recently of a fine vein of potter's clay in the vicinity of Virginia, ought to lead to the erection of works for the making of stoneware at no distant day.

The business of Virginia is strictly retail, and considering the competition it has in the neighboring towns, and the close proximity of Springfield, Jacksonville, and even St. Louis, it is large. The class of business houses are good for a town of this size, and are a credit to the business men; banking

facilities are excellent, many of the residences are handsome, and the churches are spacious and commodious.

An item of interest that should not be overlooked, is the set of abstract books of J. N. Gridley. He has devoted much time, and expended about \$10,000 in money, to the compiling of one of the finest and most complete set of Abstract books in the State of Illinois. They contain a correct copy of the entire records of Cass County, showing all the titles and all transactions affecting the titles of any and all real estate in the county, together with plats of all the towns, cities and villages, certificates of organization of all societies and incorporations, which exist or have existed, and much other valuable information. The entire set of records are supplemented with an official certificate, by the proper officer over the county seal, vouching for their correctness. It is not an easy matter to estimate the value of this set of records, particularly if the original records of this county ever be destroyed. The records were made almost entirely by Miss Mary E. Hill, one of the most efficient penwomen and thorough book-keepers in Virginia. As a work of art alone, they are worthy of perusal.

The Virginia Building and Savings Association was chartered by the Legislature in 1876, with a capital of \$500,000. The object of the association is to purchase and build city residences, thus aiding specially the working classes. The first officers were: James Thompson, President; John McHenry, Vice President; M. Graves, Treasurer, and R. W. Rabourn, Secretary. Directors: Joseph F. Black, P. H. Bailey, Robert Hall, M. Graves, and E. T. Oliver. It has already built about forty residences, and loaned out some \$40,000. The association is composed of about one hundred of the best citizens of Virginia.

Virginia was incorporated as a village,

August 19, 1857. The first board of trustees was as follows: Alexander Sample, Stephen P. Gwinn, S. W. Neely, J. E. Haskell, and J. B. Thompson. The first officers were: C. H. Oliver, President; John W. Naylor, Town Clerk; L. S. Allard, Treasurer; James H. Harris, Town Constable, and John A. Giles, Street Commissioner. The town remained under this style of government until 1872, when on the 22d of August, of that year, it was incorporated as a city, and the first set of officers elected, were as follows, viz.: J. A. Petefish, Mayor; E. M. Dale, Clerk; J. N. Wilson, Treasurer; R. W. Mills, Attorney, and Messrs. E. T. Oliver, A. E. Wyatt, John Rodgers, Joseph Wilson, and Morrison Graves, Councilmen. Since then the following gentlemen have served as Mayor of the city, viz: J. A. Petefish (two terms), 1872-3; Dr. G. W. Goodspeed, 1874; D. N. Walker, 1875; W. W. Easley, 1876; P. H. Bailey (two terms), 1877-8; John A. Petefish, until his death, which occurred in May, 1880; and J. T. Robinson was elected to fill out the unexpired term, until April, 1881; P. H. Bailey, 1881, and served until he moved away, when A. G. Epler was elected, and is (1882) the present incumbent. Other officers are R. W. Rabbourn, Clerk; J. B. Craft, Treasurer; R. W. Mills, Attorney, and Marlin Cosgro and Reuben Lancaster, Councilmen from the First Ward; George E. Harris and Dr. D. G. Smith, Councilmen from the Second Ward; W. W. Bishop and Oswell Skiles, Councilmen from the Third Ward, and Daniel Murray, City Marshal.

The last premium list (1882) of the Cass County Fair Association, issued from the office of the *Virginia Enquirer*, contains an historical sketch of the county, and of the city of Virginia, from which we make a brief extract, in conclusion of this chapter. It is a kind of peroration of the writer's article on Virginia, and shows the business and import-

ance of the city at the present time. It is as follows:

"Forty-six years laden with sorrows and joys, bright anticipations and vanquished hopes, have added both age and dignity to our little town since it was first laid out. Many of the old citizens who were wont to dream pleasant dreams over what the town would some day be, are quietly sleeping their last sleep. The boys and girls of those early times are boys and girls no longer. They have taken the places of men and women in the ranks, and are earnestly endeavoring to do the work laid out for them. The reflections, however, of what they were in their youthful days, can be seen in the many bright and happy faces of the scholars who attend the public schools. During all these years, Virginia has steadily gained in financial strength, and it is to-day not only one of the solidest but one of the most beautiful little towns in Central Illinois. Nature has freely laid her golden offerings at our feet, but only those found on the surface have as yet been utilized. Some day in the future, perhaps, we may muster sufficient courage to investigate the mysteries beneath our feet, and when the light of day is once permitted to shine upon them, a transformation of our little town will take place, equally as amazing as those accomplished by Alladin and his wonderful lamp.

"The business enterprises of the little city now include nine grocery stores, eight dry goods stores, three drug stores, two hotels, five churches, two millinery stores, four blacksmith shops, two merchant tailoring establishments, one first-class clothing house, two barber shops, two livery stables, one flour mill, one brick yard, three boot and shoe shops, five saloons, one dairy, two hardware stores, two stove and tinware establishments, two wagon manufactories, one meat market, three banks, one bakery, two restaurants, two harness shops, two furniture stores, two under-

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takers, one lumber yard, two agricultural implement dealers, three grain dealers, one photograph gallery, three sewing machine agencies, two title abstract offices, nine law-

yers, six physicians, two jewelry establishments, one book store, two dentists, three painters, three contractors and builders, one marble shop, and two printing offices.

## CHAPTER IX.

VIRGINIA—ITS GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT AS A CITY—THE ERA OF RAILROADS—PROJECT OF BUILDING THE ILLINOIS RIVER RAILROAD—THE OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI, ETC.—NEWSPAPERS OF VIRGINIA—FIRST PAPER ESTABLISHED IN THE TOWN—THE PRESENT CITY PRESS—COURT HOUSES AND THE COUNTY SEAT QUESTION—THE JAIL—MISCELLANEOUS, ETC., ETC.

IN the preceding chapter we have seen how Virginia grew and developed into a prosperous town, and then into a lively little city, governed by city rules, laws and regulations, and with a rapidly increasing population is quietly gliding on in the full tide of "successful experiment." Her growth and development, unlike many towns and cities of the West, have been rather slow, but all the more sure for being slow, and it requires no prophet to foresee her prosperous future, if her business men keep their eyes open and continue to do their whole duty. "A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid," and one that contains a plentiful stock of business energy cannot fail to prosper.

The railroads have added very materially to the growth and prosperity of Virginia, as they must do to every community through which they pass. A brief sketch of the roads passing through the city will not be out of place in this connection.

The Illinois River Railroad was agitated as early as 1850, but it was some years later before the project assumed a tangible form. In 1852, Gen. Ruggles of Mason County, was elected to the State Senate, from the district comprising the counties of Sangamon, Menard and Mason, and at the first session in 1853, he preferred and secured the enactment of the charter under which the road was built. Under this charter Gen. Ruggles went to work and procured subscriptions amounting to over \$100,000, and organized a com-

pany. At the first election, Judge William Thomas, of Morgan County, R. S. Thomas, of Cass County, J. M. Ruggles and Francis Low, of Mason County, and Joshua Waggoner, of Tazewell County, were elected Directors; R. S. Thomas was elected President; M. H. L. Schooley was elected Secretary; and Thomas Plasters, Treasurer. With some slight changes this directory continued until the road changed its name and ownership. Of this directory, the *Havana Herald*, of Sept. 11, 1857, said: "The election of directors of the Illinois River Railroad took place at Chandlerville, on Saturday of last week. A large number of persons were present on the occasion, and an amount of stock was represented equal to \$350,000. Considerable interest was manifested among those present, in regard to who should be elected to the directory, and as to how they should be appointed. But after the manifestation of considerable feeling in regard thereto, matters were finally arranged, as we presume, to the entire satisfaction of all parties, and directors were elected. The selection of a more efficient Board of Directors could not have been made. They are the very best men to be found along the line of the road, and their selection will meet the approbation of a large majority of the citizens of the different counties through which the road will pass, and give renewed confidence to the friends of this great improvement."

The counties and principal towns through

which the road was surveyed, subscribed liberally toward building it. Morgan County voted \$50,000 stock; Cass, \$100,000; Mason, \$100,000—\$50,000 at two different times; Havana, the county-seat of Mason, voted \$15,000; Bath, in Mason County, \$10,000, while other cities did well in the same substantial manner. W. G. Wheaton of Peoria, was the first engineer employed, but soon developed a disposition to locate depots and speculate in town lots, which led to a disruption with the directory, and finally resulted in his discharge from the employment of the company, and the selection of another engineer.

The contract was let in May, 1857, for grading, bridging and furnishing cross-ties between Pekin and Jacksonville, a distance of about seventy miles. Allen and McGrady, of Indiana, became the contractors, and the work began at Bath in September, 1857, and was pushed forward rapidly until completed from Pekin to Virginia, which was accomplished in 1859. The section from Pekin to Peoria was finished in 1864, and from Virginia to Jacksonville in 1869; thus completing an unbroken line from Peoria to Jacksonville. For a local road it has always done a heavy business. During the late civil war, the road changed hands, by reason of a foreclosure of first mortgage, and the name was changed to that of Peoria, Pekin and Jacksonville Railroad, and for years, was operated for that company, by John Allen and J. F. Kelsey, who gave very general satisfaction in their management. In 1878, the road went into the hands of a receiver, Mr. John Allen, and some time after, the controlling interest passed to the Wabash Railway, since which time it has remained a feeder to that great system.

It is a matter of wonder to all strangers who visit Virginia, and a source of considerable profanity to the majority of commercial travelers, that the depot of this road, was located almost as near to Springfield as it is to

Virginia, and "thereby hangs a tale." One, however, which we shall not attempt to "unfold," further than that its being partly at least, caused by the war then existing between the east and west ends of the city, by little under-currents of feeling, local prejudices, and, in fact, wheels within wheels, which together, resulted in the road being located beyond the eastern limits of the city. It is of considerable inconvenience to the citizens of the town and to visitors, and the project now agitated to some extent, of building a union depot, would be hailed by all with unbounded pleasure. However, what is a loss to the citizens and traveling public is a gain to others—the bus men.

The Springfield division of the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad crosses the Peoria, Pekin & Jacksonville road at this place. It was chartered as the Springfield & Illinois Southeastern, and was built through this section in 1871-72. Cass County manifested her interest in the enterprise by voting \$50,000 stock, for which bonds were issued of \$1,000 each. Twelve of these bonds have been paid. The road became involved, and after the usual amount of wire-pulling it was sold, and purchased by the Ohio & Mississippi Railroad, March 1, 1875, since which time, it has been known as the "Springfield Division of the Ohio & Mississippi." While it is not kept in the best condition, yet it has been of great advantage to Virginia in giving her a more direct outlet to Eastern markets, and connections at Springfield with several first-class roads. These two roads have made Virginia what she is, and afford her ample means of transportation and travel.

*The Press.*—No art save that of printing can reproduce the original emanations of genius in unlimited number, and as long as time shall last. Statues, monuments, paintings, molder and fade, and with them the names of those they were intended to memorialize; but the volume of to-day may be re-



printed ten thousand years hence, if the world shall endure so long, and the last copy will be, for all practical purposes, as available as the first. In this age of refinement and civilization, of education and letters; an age in which a Henry Clay rises from the humble "Mill-boy of the Slashes" to the greatest statesman the world ever saw, and an Abraham Lincoln steps up by regular gradation from a gawky rail-splitter to President of the United States; in this age of advancement we say, a town of any importance at all, without a newspaper, would indeed be phenomenal. It is to be regretted, however, that many sections of the country pay so little attention to their newspapers, and contribute so little to their support. Said Daniel Webster: "I care not how unpretending a newspaper may be every issue contains something that is worth the subscription price." In Ohio it is a State law that every newspaper published in the county, shall be kept on file in the office of the County Auditor, and at the end of each year be bound in volumes at the public expense. This is a good move, and should be followed in the other States. There is no other way so correct of preserving the country's history as through the medium of the press. The very advertisements eventually become historical facts, and sometimes of the greatest value. The press of to-day, it can not be disputed, is the ruling element, not only in the political, but in the social world.

The newspaper history of Virginia dates back to 1847, when the *Chronicle* was established. It was an ultra Whig paper, and was originally started by a Mr. Tilden, an own cousin, it is said, of the Sage of Gramercy Park, Samuel J. Tilden, of New York. Mark W. Dellaha became the editor and proprietor, and conducted the paper until 1852, when he sold out to parties who removed the paper from the town. Mr. Dellaha was a lawyer of considerable prominence and ability, and

a fine orator. After selling out the *Chronicle* he removed to Kansas, in 1853, and established the first paper at Leavenworth, published in the State. Subsequently he became Judge of the United States District Court of Kansas.

The *Cass County Times* was the next paper established in Virginia, and sprang into existence about the year 1855, through the energy and enterprise of Richard S. Thomas, one of the most pushing, and live, wide-awake business men in the town. Mr. Thomas conducted the *Times* as a neutral paper until the campaign of 1860, when it raised the standard of the Republican party, as led by Abraham Lincoln in the contest for the presidency. Thomas disposed of the editorial management of the *Times* to Prof. McDowell, by whom it was operated until the close of the year 1860, or beginning of 1861, when it was sold to Mr. Naylor, and the office removed to Pekin, a move which resulted in establishing the *Tazewell Republican*.

During the hotly contested and exciting campaign of 1860, a company was formed which started the *Cass County Union*, a Douglas paper, edited by Lafayette Briggs, who published it until the fall of 1864. It had become the property of Jacob Dunnaway, who sold it to a gentleman, and it was moved to Beardstown, but was shortly after again removed, and this time to El Paso. Virginia was now without a paper, and remained so until 1867, when a Republican paper was established by John S. Harper and N. S. Purviance. It was shortly after purchased by L. S. Allard, who changed it, or commenced the publication of the *Cass County Courier*. While these changes were taking place, the Democrats again established a county organ, with a Mr. Friend as editor; it finally fell into the hands of J. J. Bunce, who published for a time the *Jeffersonian*; but later moved the office to Chandlerville. The *Courier* was

published by L. S. Allard, until in February, 1872, when he leased the office to his son, H. C. Allard and W. M. Summers, by whom the name of the paper was changed to the *Gazette*, and operated by the firm about one year. Mr. Allard then retired and Mr. Summers became editor and proprietor of the paper. The *Gazette* under the management of Mr. Summers, at once took rank with the best conducted newspapers of the State, being bold and fearless in its advocacy of what its editor deemed right and just. Every issue of the paper was eagerly read by an increasing list of subscribers, and while many may not have agreed with the editor in his *policy*, or endorsed his methods of treating men and measures, all admitted his earnestness, and admired the bold and manly course he pursued in treating of local issues and county affairs.

In the memorable contest over the removal of the county seat, the *Gazette* was a staunch and able advocate of the Virginia interest, and in the county elections pending the contest, to his efforts, more than to any other one man, may be ascribed the successful issue of the "People's movement," which placed in most of the county offices men who were pronounced for Virginia. To say that Mr. Summers was without enemies would be to assert that which is not borne out by the facts. A man of so pronounced a character, so bold in speech, so strong a hater, and so earnest a friend, must needs have enemies, and they lost no opportunity to heap abuse upon him. Through all the *Gazette* continued to prosper, and became widely known as a fearless, able and outspoken paper. In February, 1876, Mr. Summers's health failed. He had suffered the previous year with disease of the lungs, and was unable at all times to attend to the duties of his office. After vainly seeking health in the cooling breezes of the north, he was compelled to retire from the *Gazette*, which was purchased by Messrs. Brownlee & Allard, who

assumed charge February 25, 1876. Mr. Summers died in Petersburg, Ill., in November following.

Mr. Allard, of the firm of Brownlee & Allard, was, together with Mr. Summers, a founder of the *Gazette*. Mr. Allard retired in September, 1876, and Mr. Brownlee continued alone until August 17, 1877, when T. L. Matthews and W. H. Thacker became proprietors. Mr. Matthews bought out Thacker, January 18, 1878, and January 3, 1879, H. C. Allard again became interested in the paper. During the campaign of 1880, C. M. Tinney, the present editor, had editorial control, while Mr. Allard was in Fort Smith, Ark., conducting the *New Era*, owned by Hon. V. Dell, then United States Marshal of the Western District of Arkansas. April 29, 1881, Mr. Tinney bought the *Gazette*, and assumed full control of it, which position he has ever since maintained. Under his management, the *Gazette* has lost nothing of its former high standing as an able and influential newspaper, but continues to improve in character and excellence. It ranks among the very best papers in Central and Southern Illinois, and is the leading Republican paper in this section. Mr. Tinney is an able and efficient writer, and a live, and wide-awake newspaper man, deserving of liberal support from the town and county.

The *Virginia Enquirer* is a weekly paper, published in Virginia. It is the official organ of the Democratic party in Cass County, and an able and earnest exponent of the principles of the Jacksonian Democracy.

The *Enquirer* was started by John S. Harper and J. J. Bunce, in the spring of 1874, and the first number was issued about the first of August in that year. After an existence of about two months, Mr. Bunce sold his half interest to J. H. Remtsen. A few weeks later Mr. Remtsen disposed of his interest to John S. Harper. After running the paper seven or eight months, Mr. Harper sold the establish-

ment to a Democratic Stock Company, and the management of the paper was entrusted to C. A. Crandall and Thomas Thompson. In the winter of 1876, the Stock Company disposed of the property to William T. Dowdall, of the *Peoria Democrat*. In March, 1877, John Frank, the present proprietor, purchased the paper from Mr. Dowdall, and issued his first number on the nineteenth of that month. Mr. Frank gave the paper a new dress, put in new job material, and otherwise increased the facilities of the office. As time rolled on, the business grew and prospered, and he was compelled from time to time to enlarge the paper. The subscription-list is, at this time, five times as large as it was when Mr. Frank took possession. The paper is a large seven column quarto, whose advertising columns are crowded with advertisements from the best houses in central Illinois. It is a live local sheet, and ranks among the sterling Democratic papers of the State. Mr. Frank has labored hard to bring it up to its present standard, and the success that has attended his efforts, is no more than he deserves.

The people of Virginia and the surrounding community, have two as able local newspapers in the *Enquirer* and *Gazette* as are to be found in any county in the State. They should feel proud of their city press, and support it as it deserves to be supported.

*Court Houses.*—Virginia has twice been the seat of justice of Cass County. The county was organized in 1837, and Beardstown was made the seat of justice, but, as we learn from Judge Shaw's Centennial address, failed to comply with the act of the legislature requiring the sum of ten thousand dollars to be paid in to the county treasury for the erection of public buildings, and the County Commissioners, under a provision of the act, located the county seat at Virginia. The following act was passed by the legislature and approved March 2, 1839:

*Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That the county seat of Cass County shall be and remain at Virginia, and the courts of said county shall hereafter be held at that place; and the several county officers who are required to keep their offices at the county seat, are required to remove their respective offices, and all bonds, documents, books and papers pertaining to the same to Virginia on or before the first day of May next, and thereafter hold and keep their offices at that place, etc., etc., etc.

Thus the county seat was moved to Virginia in an early period of the county's existence, and also in an early period of the existence of Virginia, which had been laid but a year or two before. Fifteen acres of land were donated by Dr. Hall, the proprietor of Virginia, for the purpose of erecting public buildings. A public square had been laid out, being that in the west end of the town, upon which the public school building now stands. Upon this square a court house was erected at a cost of near \$2,000. It was a two-story brick, and served as a temple of justice until the county seat was moved back to Beardstown in 1843-44. The vote was taken in September of 1843, resulting in the "permanent location of the county seat at Beardstown," but which proved to be otherwise than "permanent." It was not, however, until the famous election in 1872, that the question of the county seat was settled, perhaps, forever, by again moving it, or re-locating it at Virginia. There is little fear of its ever being moved back to Beardstown, and, indeed, looking at the matter from a disinterested standpoint, we can really see no reason why it should not remain where it now is. It is near the geographical centre of the county, has two railroads crossing almost at right angles, an excellent court house and jail, all of which considered, will no doubt conspire to keep it at Virginia henceforth.

The present court house is a modern brick structure, erected on the new public square of Virginia, "Washington Fountain Square," in anticipation of the removal of the county seat back here. It cost about \$25,000, and was built by the business men and citizens of the town, and presented to the county for a court house. The removal of the county seat was, in a manner, caused by this liberality of the citizens, as its removal involved the county in no expense. The court house is a substantial and elegant building, containing the county offices, court room, jury rooms, etc., and stands in the center of a beautifully shaded square. But few counties in the State have a better court house for the money it cost, than the one that now decks the public square of Virginia.

The jail building was erected in Virginia in 1876, and is a substantial building, costing about \$15,000. It is a safe depository for criminals and evil-doers, and is finished off in the strongest manner possible. To it is attached a sheriff or jailer's residence, which is quite a comely building. The prison part of the building is of stone, containing eight cells; the sheriff's residence is of brick, with stone trimmings, which sets it off in handsome style.

Virginia has never been troubled very seriously with fires. It is an axiom of military law, that "in time of peace prepare for war," and no one can say just when some mischievous cow will take it into her head to kick over a coal-oil lamp. There are many wooden buildings in town that would burn like —, well, just like houses. For instance, if a fire was to break out some day—windy day or night, on the east side of the square, and get

five minutes the start, it would take something more than the little machine pointed out to us the other day as Virginia's fire apparatus, and which might be taken, at a casual glance, for a wheelbarrow or a delivery hand cart, to extinguish it. A few public wells or cisterns, and a good fire engine, may sometime save the town from a destructive conflagration.

It has ever been a custom of mankind to care for the dead. Loving hands lay them away to their last rest, with faces looking upward and eastward; because, from the elevated Orient, the Archangel will come to summon them to judgment. In an early period of Virginia's history, a cemetery was laid out west of the town, upon land donated by Dr. Hall; this was used until the laying out of the present cemetery, when most of the bodies were taken up and moved to the new burial grounds. Walnut Ridge, the present city cemetery, was surveyed and laid out July 8, 1873, and the plat made by J. S. Lynch, county surveyor. The cemetery was established under an act of the legislature, authorizing cities and towns to buy, hold and improve cemeteries as public property, under restrictions adopted by city councils. Thus Walnut Ridge Cemetery was purchased and improved. It is a beautiful location for a burying ground, and with plenty of time and money spent upon its improvement, it can be made a place of surpassing loveliness. Already there are many beautiful lots laid out with taste, and ornamented with flowers and shrubbery, while neat stones and monuments, rising here and there, symbolize the affection of surviving friends for their loved and lost ones.

## CHAPTER X.

VIRGINIA—RELIGIOUS HISTORY—FIRST CHURCHES AND PREACHERS—THE DIFFERENT DENOMINATIONS AND THEIR TEMPLES OF WORSHIP—SUNDAY SCHOOLS, ETC.—  
EDUCATIONAL—THE EARLY SCHOOLS OF VIRGINIA—PIONEER TEACHERS—  
THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS—C. P. COLLEGE—WAR HISTORY—SECRET AND  
BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS, ETC., ETC.

CHRISTIAN truth is the superstructure on which every society which approximates perfection, must rest. Said an old minister of the Gospel: "It used to make my heart sick in the early years of my ministry to dismiss members of my charge to churches in distant regions, and have brothers and sisters and neighbors leave us for the new settlement in the opening Territories. But as I have grown older and followed these emigrants to their new homes, and have found them far more useful in church and State than they ever could have been in the regions they have left behind, where others held the places of influence—as I have seen them giving a healthy and vigorous tone to society, while the separation causes a pang of sorrow, the good accomplished more than compensates for the pleasure lost." It was to such emigrants as those mentioned in the foregoing extract, that Illinois is indebted, for the Christian civilization she to-day enjoys. The good seed brought hither by these humble pioneers, have produced an hundred fold.

The first Church Society formed in Virginia was by the Protestant Methodists. They built a church edifice upon the site of Traphagan's horse barn, in the rear of Mrs. Freeman's. It was a frame structure about 30x50 feet, and without any of the modern improvements. The Protestant Methodist organization has been extinct in Virginia for a number of years.

The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was the next organized in Virginia. It was formed of members principally from Shiloh church, by Rev. Thomas Campbell, February 26, 1842. Among the original members were: William Naylor, Benjamin Beasley, William Shilly, Harvey O'Neil, William Blair, David Blair, Daniel Cornell, Louise O'Neil, Susan Beasley, Melville Blair, Mary A. Cornell, Margaret Weaver, Mary A. Lindsley, Mary Lorance, and Elizabeth Biddlecome. The first elders were William Naylor, Benjamin Beasley, and William Shilly. Their first place of worship was the old court house, which stood where the public school building now stands. In 1843, they built a frame church on Job street, opposite Dr. Tate's, which would seat about 250 persons. The new church, which stands in the eastern part of the city, was built in the summer of 1879, by J. F. Black, and cost about \$4,600. It is a handsome brick edifice of modern architecture, and will seat some fifteen hundred people. Rev. J. E. Roach is the present pastor, and the membership is perhaps fifty. A Sunday school of some fifty or sixty children is maintained, under the superintendence of Mr. S. A. Gould.

The Church of Christ, of Virginia, was re-organized in 1875 (of its previous history we were unable to learn anything definite), by electing C. W. Elder and J. E. Turner as church elders, and C. W. Black and J. B.

Black, deacons. These officers resigned in 1877, and C. W. Elder, J. F. Black, and F. A. Wade were elected elders; C. W. Black, D. D. Wilson, J. B. Black and T. J. Kemper, deacons. M. Graves, Joseph F. Black, T. J. Kemper and J. E. Turner were elected trustees, John Wear holding over, making five trustees. The church began holding Sunday meetings in 1873, without electing officers, elder C. W. Elder preaching occasionally until the organization was perfected. He was then employed by the church, and preached until 1878, when elder J. L. Richardson was employed, remaining two years, when he resigned, and accepted a call to Europe. He preached there one year, and then returned and resumed his charge here in 1881, and is now pastor of the church. During the time Elder Richardson was in Europe, Elder James McGuire was engaged as pastor. Up to the fall of 1879, services were held in the old church building in the west end of the town. The house was then torn down, the material removed, and a new church erected (in 1879) on the corner of Cass and Beardstown streets, at a cost of about \$4,000, including furniture. It was dedicated by Elder B. J. Radford, president of Eureka College, in Woodford County. J. F. Black was architect and builder of the new church edifice, and displayed much taste in the design. The church now has 143 members.

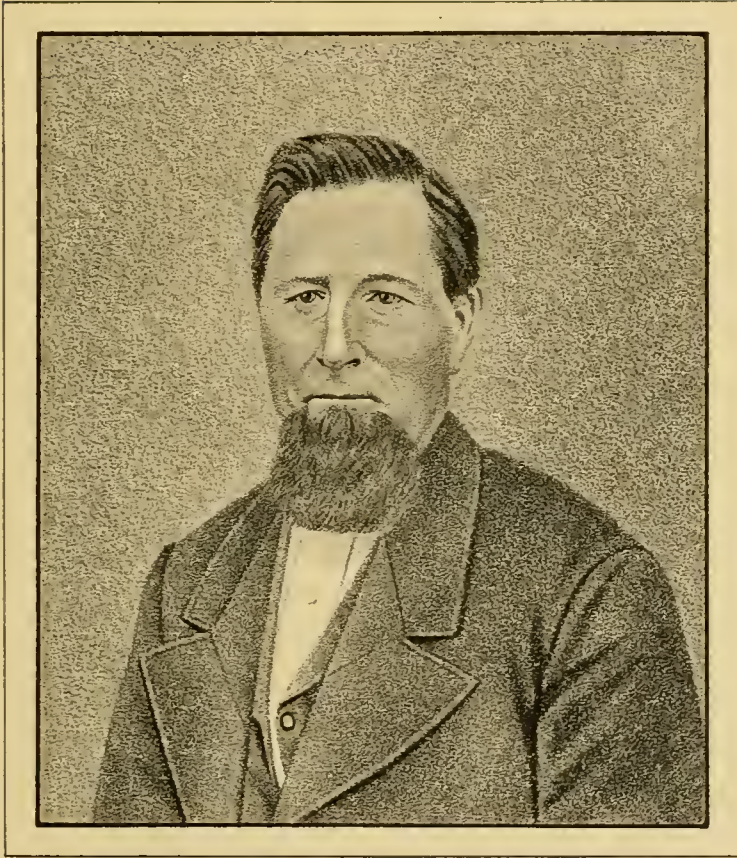
The Sunday school was organized contemporaneously with the re-organization of the church, and has continued ever since. The present superintendent is Charles Martin; Dr. D. G. Smith, assistant, with an average attendance of about 85 children.

The Ladies' Christian Missionary Society of this church, was organized November 7, 1880, with eleven members, of whom Mrs. J. A. McGuire was elected President; Mrs. James Black, Vice-president; Mrs. Mattie Rummel, Secretary, and Mrs. A. A. Leeper, Treasurer.

The contributions of the society for the first year, were twenty-three dollars. Its present officers are Mrs. Charles Black, President; Mrs. James Black, Vice-president, and the Secretary and Treasurer as above given. The society is growing in strength and increasing in usefulness. Its contributions will probably reach near thirty dollars the present year.

The Catholics have had a partial organization in Virginia since about 1840. For a number of years mass was said in the houses of catholic families, until something like organization was effected, when they used as a church an old building which stood on the south side of the square, in the west end, and in which the present St. Luke's Catholic church was fully organized. The present handsome church was commenced in 1880, and is about 40×90 feet. When finished, its cost will be near \$10,000, and it is by far the most elegant church edifice in the city. The painting and frescoing is just finished, and reflects great credit on Messrs. Peters & Son, the firm who did it. Rev. Father Michael Ryan has been pastor of St. Luke's church since 1876. About 45 families compose the present membership of the church, and a Sunday school of about 50 children is regularly maintained.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Virginia was organized about 1836, as a part of the Petersburg circuit, under the Presiding Eldership of Rev. Peter Cartwright. Among the first members were Rev. Levi Springer, a local preacher, and his wife, P. S. Oughten and wife, M. H. Beadles, G. W. Harris, and his wife and daughters, and others not now remembered. Rev. Enoch Faulkner was one of the first pastors, and when this church was a part of a circuit, large in extent. For some time the society held its meetings in the old Protestant Methodist Church, already frequently alluded to in these pages, and afterward the court house in the West End was used as a place of meeting. The present



*J. Skiles*





frame church, standing on Springfield street, west of the court house—was erected in 1856, at a cost of about \$2,500. The membership is now 120, and is under the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Auer. The Sunday school has a regular attendance of about 100 children; Mr. Henry Berry is the superintendent, and devotes considerable attention to its interests, and the moral improvement of its members.

The Presbyterian Church of Virginia.—The following sketch was furnished by Rev. J. P. Dawson, the pastor: Although the present house of worship was erected in 1857, and was occupied as a preaching station, by stated supplies, there was no regular Presbyterian organization until the year 1863.

On the 12th day of June, 1863, the following petition was sent to the Presbytery of Sangamon. "*Dear Brethren:*—We, your petitioners, members of Providence Church, and others, respectfully ask you to organize us into a separate church, to be called the 'Presbyterian Church of Virginia, Illinois,' under your care and supervision, if in your judgment the same should be for the interest of Christ's cause." (Signed) G. W. Goodspeed, Sarah W. Goodspeed, Alice H. Goodspeed, I. N. White, George Wilson, Jane B. Wilson, Belinda M. Wilson, John N. Wilson, R. M. Wilson, William C. Wilson, Rev. J. Dale, N. S. Dale, Eliza J. Dale, G. Clendenin, Helen Clendenin, Mary H. Stowe, Mary McCawly, Mary E. Haynes, Eliza C. Heslep, D. R. Downing, Mary Downing, N. H. Downing, A. G. Angier, Eliza A. Angier, Robert Barr, Jane Barr, Hattie Angier, Grace Suffren, Mildred Berry, John J. Bergen, S. S. Bergen, James McAllister, William McAllister, Eliza McAllister, Charles Sloan, and Mary A. Sloan.

In compliance with this petition, the Rev. J. G. Bergen, D. D., as commissioner of Sangamon Presbytery, preached at Virginia, on the 4th day of July, 1863, and afterward proceeded to organize the "Presbyterian Church

of Virginia." George Wilson, Dr. G. W. Goodspeed and David R. Downing, were elected and installed as elders, and Glasgow Clendenin, J. N. Wilson, J. J. Bergen and A. G. Angier, were ordained deacons.

The organization of the church was largely due to the efforts of Rev. John Dale, who as stated supply of Providence Presbyterian Church, had preached at this point for several years. After the organization the church employed Rev. George K. Scott as stated supply, who labored acceptably for nearly two years. After he was called to another field, a young licentiate named David J. Strain, labored here until April, 1865. The people were well pleased, and through the Presbytery extended to him a regular call to become their pastor, which call was accepted, and on the 20th of June, 1865, the Presbytery of Sangamon met in Virginia, and ordained Mr. Strain to the gospel ministry, and installed him as pastor of this church. The blessing of God followed, and he remained the faithful and efficient shepherd of this flock for more than fourteen years. But on account of failing health he was led to resign the charge, and the pastoral relation was dissolved in July, 1880. In October of the same year the church, employed Rev. J. P. Dawson as stated supply, and at the end of the year extended to him a regular call, which was by him accepted, and he was duly installed as pastor of the church by a commission of Springfield Presbytery, on the 23d day of October, 1881, and he is now (1882) the pastor of the church.

The church is united and prosperous; has a comfortable house of worship and parsonage; has about 120 members, and a Sabbath school of about 100 members.

*Educational.*—Through the medium of the common schools are the rising generation of all nationalities assimilated readily and thoroughly, forming the great American people. The common schools are alike open to the rich

and the poor, the citizen and the stranger. It is the duty of those to whom the administration of the schools is confided, to discharge it with magnanimous liberality and Christian kindness. Diligent care should be taken by instructors, to impress upon the minds of children and youth committed to their care, the principles of morality and justice, and a sacred regard for truth, love of their country, humanity and universal benevolence, sobriety, industry and frugality, chastity, moderation and temperance, and all other virtues which ornament society.

The early residents of Virginia were alive to the value of education, and opened schools as soon as they could support them. The first school of which we have any reliable account, was taught in the second story or attic of the old Protestant Methodist church, already described. It had been fitted up for a school room, by lathing and plastering to the rafters, making a room about 14x50 feet, and in this unique building the youth of the early town learned the first rudiments of an education. The first teachers were Miss Ann Jourdan, a Protestant Methodist preacher, a Miss Williams, Mrs. Blackman Ross, now of Jacksonville, Miss Mary Ann Lindsley, now Mrs. John Ruckley, of Philadelphia, and others whose names are forgotten. The first school-building owned by the city was the old court house, which was purchased by the county for school purposes after the county seat had been moved back to Beardstown, and was occupied as such about 1846. It was used until 1867, when it was torn down and re-built, and has since served the city, until the purchase of the old Cumberland Presbyterian College building, now used by the city for a high-school department, and which will be again referred to further on. The city schools are in a flourishing condition, and compare favorably with any other town in this section of the State of a like population.

The High School was organized by Prof. Loomis, the present principal of the city schools, though he has not been principal ever since. Several who have filled the position have become somewhat distinguished men. Prof. J. A. Johnson, one of these ex-principals, is now a practicing lawyer at Oakland, Oregon. Another, Prof. R. H. Biggs, is the present Superintendent of the schools at Denver, Colorado. We are unable, however, to sketch each and every one of them, and tell whether they rank as great or small, among the men of the time.

The teachers for the ensuing year are as follows, viz.: Prof. John Loomis, Principal; Miss Lucy B. Duer, Assistant Principal; Miss Rachel Berry, teacher 6th grade; Geo. J. Kelley, 5th grade; Miss Monie Tate, 4th grade; Miss Belle Rodgers, 3rd grade; Miss Mary Billings, 2nd grade; Miss Mary E. Wright, 1st grade; attendance about 350 pupils. Springer School, Edward Massie, teacher; about 15 in attendance.

*Union College.*—The history of this institution is brief, and its career was short and unprofitable as a school. When the Sangamon Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, concluded to build a Seminary, three different places were designated as the point where the school should be located, and the choice was to fall to the most liberal bidder. In other words, the town, which would extend the most liberal contribution toward building the Seminary, was to become the place of its location. This led to the erection of three buildings at as many different points, viz.: at Virginia, Cass County; at Mt. Zion, Macon County, and at Lincoln, Logan County. The school at Mt. Zion died an early but natural death, soon passing out of existence.

The school, in the meantime, which had been established at Virginia, was changed into the Union College, but never prospered

to any extent. It became involved in debt and was finally sold to the city of Virginia, and is now known as the City High School Building. The school at Lincoln flourished in proportion to the decline of the others. It became a college, then a university, and is now known as Lincoln University. The Virginia school was run under denominational rule from its commencement, about 1865. It was sold to the city about 1870, for \$7,500, and the proceeds used to strengthen the Lincoln school, which is still owned by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

*War History.*—In a work of this kind, it is not intended to write a history of the late civil war, but to allude very briefly to the part Virginia took in the matter. A war of any sort, from a “war of words” to bloody battles between contending armies, is but a sickly detail of horrors, and a civil war is the most deplorable of all. It would be well if we could drop a veil over our late war between the States, and blot out the remembrance of it forever. It is a species of history better forgotten than perpetuated.

The Nineteenth Illinois Infantry was the first regiment that drew anything like a company from Virginia and vicinity. Company F was from this place, and was officered as follows: Luther S. Allard, Captain; K. H. Chandler, First Lieutenant; and James G. Campbell, Second Lieutenant. Captain Allard resigned December 1, 1861, and Lieutenant Chandler was promoted to Captain, and afterward killed in battle, when Lieutenant Campbell became Captain, who remained as such until the expiration of the regiment's term of service. Upon the promotion of Lieutenant Campbell, Samuel L. Humilton was promoted to Second Lieutenant, and then to First Lieutenant, and mustered out with the regiment. John Hill was promoted Second Lieutenant, January 2, 1863, and resigned (says the Adjutant-gen-

eral's Report), “for the good of the service.” The same authority makes the same report of Silas W. Kent, who was promoted Second Lieutenant on the 3rd of June, 1863.

Of the service of the Nineteenth, the Adjutant-general's report gives no record, further, than that it was mustered out of the service at the close of its three years term of service.

The Thirty-third Illinois Infantry was the next regiment in which Virginia was represented. In the Thirty-third almost an entire company was enlisted from Virginia and the immediate vicinity. Company K was the Virginia company, and Charles E. Lippincott was its Captain. None of the other commissioned officers, however, were from Cass County, except Second Lieutenant William H. Weaver, who was from Beardstown. Lieutenant Weaver resigned March 22, 1862, came home and raised a company for the 100 days' service, of which company he was Captain. Capt. Lippincott was promoted to Lieutenant-colonel, March 1, 1862, and to Colonel on the 5th of September following. he was mustered out of the service with the regiment, and was promoted Brigadier-general for gallant and meritorious services. We have not space to give the names of the entire company, but from the Adjutant-general's report will give a synopsis of the history of the Thirty-third, of which Company K formed a part.

The Thirty-third Infantry was organized at Camp Butler, Illinois, in September, 1861, and mustered into the United States service by Capt. T. G. Pitcher, U. S. A. Its first service was in Missouri, where it did little but scout duty, until March, 1862, when it moved into Arkansas, and was engaged in a number of skirmishes, and several rather severe battles. It remained in Arkansas until in the spring of 1863, when it was ordered to St. Genevieve, Mo., from whence it embarked for Milliken's

Bend, La. Attached to the Thirteenth Army Corps, it participated in all its battles—Port Gibson, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, siege of Vicksburg, siege of Jackson, etc. In August it was ordered to New Orleans, where it was engaged in several raids and expeditions, and in November was ordered into Texas, where it did considerable manœuvring, if nothing more serious. The regiment re-enlisted in the spring of 1864, and on the 14th of March arrived at Bloomington, Ill., where they received veteran furlough. It was re-organized in April, 1864, at Camp Butler, and proceeded to New Orleans. It remained in Louisiana on guard duty at different points, and in March, 1865, was ordered to join the Sixteenth Army Corps. On its way the train was thrown from the track, and 9 men killed and 70 wounded. Company K had fortunately remained behind, guarding transportation, and escaped the catastrophe. After the capture of Mobile the regiment moved to Montgomery, Ala., where it arrived on the 25th of April, and where it received the news of Lee's surrender. It was mustered out of the service November 24, 1865, at Vicksburg, and was sent home to Camp Butler for final discharge, after more than four years continual service.

The One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Infantry contained two companies from Cass County, one from Virginia and one from Beardstown; the latter company will be written up in the chapters devoted to Beardstown. Company D. was from Virginia, and was organized with the following commissioned officers: Benj. C. Berry, Captain, Thos. S. Berry, First Lieutenant, and David N. Downing, Second Lieutenant. Capt. Berry resigned January 3, 1865, and George H. Martin was promoted Captain June 26, 1865, but mustered out as Sergeant August 3, 1865. Lieutenant Thomas S. Berry was honorably discharged May 15, 1865, and Henry D. Freeman was promoted June 25, 1865, to First Lieutenant,

but mustered out as Sergeant with the regiment. Second Lieutenant Downing died at Duckport, La., May 22, 1863. The following facts are gleaned from the Adjutant-general's reports of the movements of the regiment to which this company belonged.

The One Hundred and Fourteenth was recruited during the summer of 1862, and mustered into service on the 18th of September at Camp Butler, Illinois. The regiment left for Memphis, Tenn., on the 8th of November, arriving on the 26th, and starting at once on the Tallahatchie campaign. Early in 1863 it returned to Memphis. It was ordered to Louisiana, and on the 2nd of May returned to the rear of Vicksburg, and was engaged in the battle of Jackson, Miss., where it lost five men, killed and wounded, and arrived in the rear of Vicksburg on the 18th, participating in the siege, with a loss of twenty in killed and wounded. It did little but scout and guard duty until in June, 1864, when it went against Generals Forrest and Lee at Guntown, Miss. The battle at this place commenced early in the afternoon, and the troops, worn down and exhausted by a double quick march of three miles, were hurried into action, and after fighting five or six hours, were repulsed. The 114th remained as rear guards, and assisted in holding the enemy in check during the whole of the first night's retreat. Out of the 397 men of the 114th engaged, it lost 205 in killed, wounded and missing. Among the wounded was Lieutenant T. S. Berry, of Company D.

The regiment, from this time until August, was engaged in numerous scouts and expeditions, and had many skirmishes with detachments of the enemy, in which it did considerable severe fighting. In August, 1864, it was ordered to Duvall's Bluff, Ark. It left Brownsville, Ark., in pursuit of Gen. Price, and marched to Cape Girardeau, Mo., in seventeen days on ten days' rations. After long

and tedious marches, and travel by rail and boat, it reached Kansas City, whence it was ordered to St. Louis, arriving there November 15. From St. Louis it was ordered to Nashville, Tenn., where it arrived in time to take part in the battles of the 15th and 16th of December. The One Hundred and Fourteenth was attached to McMillan's brigade, McArthur's division of Gen. A. J. Smith's corps, which brigade was especially complimented by Gen. Thomas in his report to the War Department. After the surrender of Mobile, the regiment marched to Montgomery, Ala., arriving April 24, 1865, and bridging the Alabama river with pontoons, remained on duty at the bridge until July 17, when it was ordered to Vicksburg, and mustered out of service August 3, 1865. It arrived at Camp Butler, Illinois, on the 7th of August, and on the 15th was paid off and discharged.

These regiments are all that contained anything like an organized body of men from Virginia. A number of men from the city and vicinity, were scattered through various other regiments, but none in organized bodies. From the foregoing sketch of the 33d and the 114th, it will be seen that Virginia's gallant sons performed their duty nobly, during those four long and dreary years, and that some of them came not back when the contest ended. From bloody fields of war and carnage, they crossed over the river to join the grand army on the other side. They need no mausoleum! Their fame is a part of the nation's history; their epitaph is engraved upon the hearts of men. In the language of the gallant O'Hara:

"The muffled drum's sad roll has beat  
The soldier's last tattoo;  
No more on life's parade shall meet  
The brave and fallen few.  
On Fame's eternal camping-ground,  
Their silent tents are spread;  
And glory guards with solemn round  
The bivouac of the dead."

*Secret and Benevolent Institutions.*—Benevolent institutions have existed so long, that no records tell of their organization, and they will, doubtless, continue, "until time shall be no more." The history of Free Masonry is veiled and clouded by almost unwritten centuries; yet amidst the political fluctuations of the earth, and the downfall of States and Empires, its traditions have been borne to us on the current of time, and been gathered together by the Masonic student for the meditation and instruction of the Craft. All who have considered the origin of Free Masonry have been convinced that the germ from which it sprang was coeval with that wonderful command of Jehovah: "Let there be light," and from the coincidences found to exist between it and the ancient mysteries, they were very similar in character. We know that the aims of these institutions are good, because the results achieved are so grand and glorious. We believe that the world is better for their existence, secret though they are in their workings, and agree not with those who believe that everything is evil which is veiled in secrecy, and hidden from the eyes of the curious.

Free Masonry is represented in Virginia by the Blue Lodge only. The institution, it seems, has never flourished very vigorously here—the more 's the pity. Like the seed that fell in stony ground, it has probably been choked by the briars and brambles. Virginia Lodge No. 544, was organized under dispensation, April 2, A. L. 5867, and was chartered October 1 following. The charter members were G. F. Hellig, W. A. Harding, L. P. R. Yaple, Casper Magel, F. Underwood, H. H. Hall, James Smith, James M. Rodney, William Cox, L. S. Allard, Lee Carpenter and H. Barden. The first Master was G. F. Hellig; the first Senior Warden, William A. Harding; and the first Junior Warden, L. P. R. Yaple. The lodge now has some thirty members, and

is officered as follows: G. F. Hellig, Worshipful Master; D. G. Smith, Senior Warden; A. A. Leeper, Junior Warden; Thomas Dunaway, Treasurer; T. M. Hubbard, Secretary; George Davidson, Senior Deacon; Parker Thompson, Junior Deacon; and Robert Chet-tick, Tiler.

There has never been a Chapter, Council nor Commandery of the order in the town, and, as we remarked above, the institution, from some cause, has never flourished here as in the majority of Illinois towns. With the amount of first-class material at hand, however, the time will come, perhaps, when it will flourish here as it deserves to flourish everywhere.

Odd Fellowship, the twin-sister of Free Masonry, though comparatively modern in organization, possesses the same virtues, and exerts the same wide-spread influence for good. It is represented in Virginia by Saxon Lodge No. 68, which was instituted in Virginia by Deputy Grand Master James Leonard, March 14, 1850, with P. O. Bryan, N. B. Newman, R. S. Lord, I. N. White, Charles Boyd, W. H. H. Carpenter, and William Collins charter members. The first officers were: R. S. Lord, N. G.; W. H. H. Carpenter, V. G.; I. N. White, Secretary; and N. B. Newman, Treasurer. Charles E. Lippincott (now General Lippincott), was the first member admitted into the new lodge. He was a member of Illini Lodge No. 4, at Jacksonville, and as soon as Saxon Lodge was instituted, took out his card of withdrawal, presented it for admission to this lodge, and was elected a member. H. H. Hall, now of Jacksonville, was the first initiate, being elected and initiated at the first meeting.

The first hall or place of meeting used by the lodge, was in a church that stood near where Traphagan's livery stable now stands, and was burned in 1872. This building was used for town hall political meetings, school

house, and preaching place for all religions denominations, and was not the most secret and retired room for the meetings of a lodge. It was used however, for four years, and in 1854, the lodge moved to the upper room of the frame building on the southwest corner of the square, now occupied by D. J. McConnell as a grocery store. After remaining here two years, it was moved to the West End, where most of the business of the town was then done, and occupied the brick building now used by Harry Thompson as a residence. In 1860, it bought the property now owned by J. G. Campbell, and occupied by the Dan Leonard saloon, on the west side of the square. It used the upper story for a lodge room, and rented the lower story until 1864, when, owing to the rapid increase of membership, which had reached fifty-four, it became necessary to again move to larger quarters, and the property was sold to Mr. Campbell, and the lodge rented the room over the Farmers' National Bank, which gave it very commodious quarters. With the proceeds of the sale of its old building, it bought the lot on the north side of the square, on which it afterward built a hall. It bought also at the same time the lot adjoining it on the east. The lodge remained, however, in the room in the bank building until 1872, during which time it had accumulated something over \$1,300. It now determined to build on its own lots, and accordingly contracted for a brick building 20x80 feet, two stories high, to cost about \$5,000, and with its \$1,300 issued bonds to the amount of \$3,700, which were sold, and in the fall of the same year the building was completed. The lower room was occupied by John Rodgers' furniture store, and the upper room was occupied jointly by the Odd Fellows' and Masonic Lodges. The crisis of 1873-74 caused many of its members to drop out of the lodge, and the debt under which the lodge was laboring so embarrassed it,

that in 1881, after struggling long and hard against many difficulties, it succeeded in reducing its debt to \$2,600, had \$175 in the treasury, and but twenty-two members on the roll. Under this state of circumstances it proposed to the bond-holders to give them the \$175, and a deed to the property, to be released from all further obligation, which was accepted. The lodge then rented the upper room for one year, and at the close of 1881, rented the suit of rooms now occupied in the Skiles building, on the southwest corner of the square, and moved into them in January, 1882. Here it has one of the best arranged halls in Central Illinois, and at the present time (1882), has a membership of over ninety, comprised of the best men in the county.

The present officers of Saxon Lodge are as follows: Henry H. Berry, N. G., Geo. L. Warlow, V. G., Geo. J. Kelly, Recording Secretary; George R. Berry, Permanent Secretary, and Matt Yaple, Treasurer.

Advance Encampment No. 129, was instituted November 29, 1871, at Paxton, Ford County, Ill., and the charter members were Stacey Daniels, A. F. Blake, Charles Guthman, Dan. Guthman and H. C. Funk. The original charter was destroyed and a new one issued by T. Warren-Floyd, Grand Patriarch, October 13, 1874. The Encampment was removed to Virginia, and re-organized under a dispensation June 23, 1880, from W. E. Carlin, Grand Patriarch. The first officers at Virginia were S. M. Colladay, C. P., F. E.

Downing, H. P., A. A. Leeper, S. W., S. P. Henderson, J. W., C. W. Black, Scribe, and J. W. Wilson, Treasurer. The present officers are: E. D. C. Woodward, C. P., Jas. A. Martin, H. P., H. H. Berry, S. W., S. M. Colladay, J. W., J. W. Stanley, Treasurer, and F. E. Downing, Scribe. The Encampment has now about thirty members, and is in a flourishing condition. It owns no property, but uses the hall in common with the lodge.

Illini Lodge No. 854, Knights of Honor, was organized January 16, 1878, with the following charter members: J. B. Black, C. W. Black, W. W. Bishop, C. A. Bruce, John Black, J. T. Black, George Conover, C. A. Crandall, F. E. Downing, J. M. Epler, W. W. Easley, H. D. Freeman, M. Graves, James Hunt, C. M. Hubbard, Reuben Lancaster, Wm. Murray, T. L. Matthews, T. A. Morrison, E. T. Oliver, W. B. Payne, J. L. Richardson, J. W. Rearick, J. W. Savage, C. N. Savage, J. H. Tureman, J. W. Virgin, N. S. Vance, Jno. H. Wood, W. W. Walker, D. T. Walker, D. N. Walker and J. B. Vanderventer. They have paid out for widows and orphans' benefit fund about \$2,000, and have lost two members. The officers are T. L. Matthews, P. D., M. Graves, D., C. W. Black, V. D., J. W. Savage, A. D., W. W. Easley, G., J. L. Richardson, C., Wm. Murray, R., C. A. Bruce, F. R., George Conover, T., W. W. Bishop, G., W. W. Walker, Sentinel, J. B. Black, J. H. Wood and D. N. Walker, Trustees.

## CHAPTER XI.\*

BEARDSTOWN—CITY AND PRECINCT—LAYING OUT OF THE TOWN—ITS LOCATION—ORGANIZATION—FIRST OFFICERS—THE COUNTY SEAT QUESTION—CHURCHES—SCHOOLS—THE PRESS—RAILROADS—THE PROFESSIONS—EARLY SETTLERS—BUSINESS INTERESTS—WAR RECORD, ETC.

THOMAS BEARD and Enoch C. March entered the northeast quarter of Section 15, in Township 18, North of Range 12 West, on Sept. 23, 1826, and Oct. 8, 1827; the same parties entered the northwest quarter of said section. Thomas Beard entered the west half of the southwest quarter of the aforesaid section on Oct. 10, 1827, and March and Beard also on the same date entered fractional section 10 in said Township, embracing all the lands upon which Beardstown is now located, except the southeast quarter of section 15, and the west half of section 14, which two last mentioned tracts were donated by Congress, in lieu of the deficiency of section 16 for school purposes. The School Commissioner of Morgan county divided this land into 173 blocks and fractional blocks, which was designated as the School Commissioners' addition to Beardstown, and the first sale or blocks in said addition was on April 16, 1832, when seventy-five blocks were sold therein, and the remaining blocks were subject to private entry at affixed prices.

The original town of Beardstown was laid off and platted by Enoch C. March and Thomas Beard, Sept. 9, 1829, and recorded at Jacksonville, Morgan County, in Book B, page 228.

The town having grown rapidly, an addition was made, called "March & Beard's" addition to Beardstown, recorded March 6, 1833. Soon afterward, Mr. March, having sold his

interest in Beardstown to N. A. Ware, another addition was made by Beard & Ware May 10, 1836, and also a further addition was made by Beard & Arenz, July 1, 1837.

There were also additions made to Beardstown by John Ayres, David Clendenin, A. B. Dennison, and many school blocks have been subdivided into lots.

The location of Beardstown is a very favorable one, being situated on the Illinois River, about midway between Peoria and St. Louis. It is connected directly with St. Louis and Chicago, by the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, and with Springfield and Southwestern Illinois to the Ohio River at Shawneetown, by the Ohio & Mississippi Railway. Another railway from Burlington to the Ohio River is contemplated, running through Beardstown, which in all probability will soon be built.

For purposes of manufacturing, Beardstown is not surpassed by any town in Illinois, possessing all facilities; for there is plenty of water at all times, and coal, timber and other building materials can be obtained in its immediate neighborhood.

The first licensed ferry across the Illinois River was granted by the County Commissioners of Schuyler County, to Thomas Beard June 5, 1826.

The first organization of the town government of Beardstown, was by the election of a Board of Trustees in September, 1834. Haywood Reed was elected President of the Board; John B. Fulks, Clerk; Edward Tull,

\* By Judge J. A. Arenz.



Assessor; Martin S. Trent, Collector; Isaac C. Spence, Treasurer; William H. Nelms, Supervisor.

The first set of ordinances were passed Sept. 22, 1834.

This town government continued from year to year, by the election of new officers, until Feb. 4, 1850, when a city organization was established.

“By an act of the General Assembly of March 3, 1837, declaring the County of Cass to be one of the counties of the State of Illinois, Beardstown, the largest town in Cass County, and having the most numerous population in said town and immediate vicinity, was designated to be the county seat, provided the citizens or corporation of Beardstown raise the sum of \$10,000, to defray the expenses of erecting public buildings, and that the Corporation of Beardstown shall be allowed the period of one, two and three years, for the payment of said sum, in three equal payments. The court house shall be erected on the public square of Beardstown.”

At that time it was not a very easy matter to raise \$10,000 at short notice, and the handy mode of running a town in debt by the issuing of bonds had not then been discovered. There was also a great diversity of opinion among the people of Beardstown; some would much rather pay nothing, alleging that the county ought to pay for its own buildings; others objected to erecting the buildings on the public square; and others, although willing to furnish their proportion of the funds required, were unwilling to foot the bill alone.

Therefore, in order to raise the amount required upon equal terms, an act of the legislature was obtained July 21, 1837, authorizing the corporation to levy a tax of six per cent. per annum on all real estate in Beardstown, according to the value thereof, for the purpose of raising the sum of \$10,000.

But the County Commissioners, then in office, Amos Bonney, Joshua P. Crow, and Geo. F. Miller, were determined to locate the county seat at Virginia.

February 24, 1838, the board of trustees at Beardstown appointed a committee to inform the County Commissioners that Beardstown will comply with the requirements of the law, establishing the county seat at Beardstown. This committee consisted of Thomas Graham, Edward Tull and Thomas R. Saunders, and having brought the matter by the County Commissioners, reported to the town trustees that they had presented the matter to said County Commissioners' Court, while in session, and Mr. Bonney, the presiding officer of said court, had treated the same with contempt.

In March, 1838, another effort was made by the board of trustees to satisfy the Commissioners' Court, if possible, by informing said court that Ben. H. Gatton had made proposals for building the court house and other public buildings at Beardstown, to which the following answer was returned by order of said court:

“To THOMAS WILBOURN, President of the  
“Board of Trustees, Beardstown.

“I am directed by the County Commissioners' Court to inform you that they have considered the propositions submitted to them from B. H. Gatton through your board, and regret that they do not feel themselves authorized by law to accede to  
“it.

“Signed, J. W. PRATT, Clerk.”

The County Commissioners had entered into an agreement with H. H. Hall, a resident and large property holder of Virginia, on the 21st of April, 1838, for erecting a court house and jail, at Virginia; and said Hall reported at the September term, 1839, that said buildings were completed; whereupon the commissioners accepted the same, and notice was given at said September term,

1839, to the county officers, that their offices were ready for use in the court house at Virginia.

The manner, in which the county seat of Cass was thus located was by no means satisfactory to the citizens of Beardstown, and the western portion of the county, and it is to be regretted, that out of this proceeding, arbitrarily and highhanded, as some called it, and a desire that Beardstown again wished to obtain, what Virginia then had got, grew up that unfriendly feeling between these two places, which existed, and still exists, to the detriment of both.

That the county seat has never been any material benefit to either place, has been demonstrated, for each town has had it long enough to prove this. The only benefit in reality is the convenience of access to the records, offices and courts. The strife for county seat, between the two rival places, has cost the people immense sums of money, caused much hard feeling, and prevented or ruined many a useful enterprise.

The next election about the county seat resulted in favor of Beardstown, and at the March term of the County Commissioners' Court, H. E. Dummer, Esq., on behalf of the corporation of Beardstown, presented before said court, a deed from Thomas R. Saunders, to the County of Cass, for Lot 1, in Block 31, in Beardstown; also a receipt from B. W. Schneider, contractor for building the court-house at Beardstown, and a receipt from Thomas Beard, contractor for the erection of a jail, and also the certificate of the sufficiency of said buildings from the Hon. Samuel D. Lockwood, presiding judge of the Cass Circuit Court; all of which papers were ordered to be filed. Upon which the Court adjourned, to meet at Beardstown, on Monday, March 3d, 1845. Beardstown remained in possession of the county seat until 1875, when it was removed to Virginia, after the

election in 1872 had been contested and carried through the courts, resulting finally in a decision that said election had been in favor of Virginia by a majority of eight votes.

Beardstown adopted a city organization on February 4, 1850, when the following persons had been elected as officers:

John A. Arenz, mayor; Eli S. Houghton, marshal.

Aldermen of the 1st ward—Thomas Eyre and Jesse Riggins; 2nd ward, James Hope and Joseph Stehlin; 3rd ward, George Guenther and Jacob Ritche.

S. Emmons was appointed city clerk, and T. A. Hoffman, treasurer.

The present officers in 1882 are:

J. J. Beatty, mayor.

Aldermen of the 1st ward—H. C. Meyer and S. O. Buck; 2nd ward, B. F. Epler and H. B. Wilson; 3rd ward, H. Schmoldt and Henry Huges; 4th ward, George F. Frauman and H. Schroeder.

Charles E. Fulks, clerk; Franklin A. Hammer, treasurer; J. G. Liston, marshal.

*Churches.*—The first church was erected in 1841 or 1842, at the corner of Fifth and Washington Streets, and designated as, "the German Evangelical Church at Beardstown." Mr. Beard and wife executed an amended deed for the lot of ground, upon which it had been built in June, 1842.

Mr. George Kuhl, Christian Kuhl and William Hemminghouse, were elected trustees of said church, to hold their offices until successors should be elected and qualified. The church was open to all denominations, and independently of synods, bishops or conferences. For some years it proved to be a very useful institution, filled to its full capacity on Sundays for worship, and for school purposes on other days of the week. After the expiration of several years, some of the most orthodox members came to the conclusion that, in addition to services on Sundays, there should

also be held prayer-meetings and religious exercises on certain evenings during the other days of the week. In this movement Mr. Hemminghouse and Mr. Geo. Kuhl were the leaders, and for a considerable time such meetings were held in the town school-house, or in a building on Main Street, belonging to Geo. Kuhl, and resulted finally in the organization of the German Methodist Church, about the year 1845.

Although the German Evangelical Church continued on for several years, it decreased in members, because other religious societies had been established, erecting places of worship of their own until finally it was dissolved as a church organization, and the building was sold in 1881, to Mr. H. T. Foster, who constructed it into a dwelling house, which he now occupies as a family residence.

The second church in Beardstown was erected at the corner of Third and Washington Streets, in 1845, as a Presbyterian Church, but in February, 1850, the Congregational form of government was adopted, and it became, "the first Congregational Church at Beardstown."

Horace Billings and Dr. V. A. Turpin were the first deacons. Mr. Billings continued to hold office until his removal to Jacksonville in 1867. The Rev. Socrates Smith was the first minister of the church, and Dr. B. F. Grey is pastor now.

The Methodist Church was organized in Beardstown at an early day, supposed to be in the year 1837 or 1838, and a church was built on the corner of Fifth and State Streets in 1848, and an addition in 1874.

Rev. J. K. Miller is the present pastor. In the year 1846, the German Methodists erected a building for worship on State street, which was also used for school purposes. In 1848, when William Bauermeister was pastor, a difference arose between the members about some question of belief, or government, of the

nature of which we are not informed, and a division occurred, Mr. Bauermeister and thirty-two members withdrawing from the church and forming the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

In 1851, the German Methodists built their church at the corner of Fifth and State streets, and the old building was converted into a dwelling for the pastor.

The first pastor of the church was Peter Wilkens, and the present one is John Ritter.

The members who had withdrawn from the German Methodist Church with William Bauermeister organized as "the First Evangelical Lutheran Church at Beardstown," with William Bauermeister as pastor, and in 1843 erected a building used as church and school-house, and shortly afterward erected a church at the corner of 4th and Lafayette streets, in 1850. This church has a fine organ, and is well fitted out. Rev. William Bauermeister was its pastor from May 22, 1848, until October, 1850. The present pastor is Rev. John Bond.

The church increased rapidly in members, and in 1871, when Rev. Robert Knoll was its pastor, dissention arose between the members, and the result was that the pastor with his adherents withdrew, and established another Evangelical Lutheran Church on 6th street. This later church claims the same name as the former; the one on 4th street adhered to the synod of Illinois, and is now connected with the general synod, whilst the church on 6th street is under the Missouri synod.

The first pastor of the 6th street church was Rev. Robert Knoll, and his successor is Paul Merbitz.

In 1871 the church on 6th street built a house, which was used for a place of worship and school purposes, and in 1873 erected a very neat church at the corner of 6th and Jefferson streets. This church contains a fine organ, and the windows are of stained glass.

The erection of this church shows what can be accomplished by determined people. Although the number of members was small at first, they nevertheless put up buildings costing over \$8,000, without calling for any aid outside of its own members. Both the Lutheran Churches are in a very flourishing condition. The services on Sundays are well attended, and each congregation keeps up a school, with a teacher.

The Catholic Church was built in 1855, on 5th street, and was considerably enlarged in 1860. Its present pastor is Rev. Father Weigand.

*Schools.*—The first school-house was built by Thomas Beard and F. Arenz, in 1833, which was also used as a place of worship on Sundays.

In 1853 a commodious school-house was erected on block 36, on 4th street. This building and the former court-house are now used for public school purposes, but additional buildings are much needed.

The Catholics and two Lutheran Churches have also schools of their own. There is also outside of Beardstown a school-house near Casp. Stock's farm.

The enumeration of children in township 18, range 12, of which Beardstown alone contains nearly the whole population, in July, 1882, shows that there are

Males under 21 years.....	797
Females " " .....	867

Total, 1,664

The population of Beardstown is about 5,000 inhabitants.

*Newspapers at Beardstown.*—The first newspaper was established by Francis Arenz, and was published in 1833 and 1834; Francis Arenz, editor, and J. B. Fults, publisher. It was called *The Beardstown Chronicle and Illinois Military Bounty Land Advertiser*.

Then for some time there was no newspa-

per published here, until in 1845; Sylvester Emmons established and published *The Beardstown Gazette*, the first number being issued in August, 1845. At this time the newspapers nearest to this place were published, to wit: one at Jacksonville, two at Springfield, two at Quincy, two at Peoria, and one at Burlington, Iowa. In 1846, the *Gazette* published the delinquent tax list for the counties of Cass, Mason, Schuyler and Brown, it being the only paper located nearest the county seat of the respective counties. This paper was continued by Mr. Emmons until 1852, when it was sold to C. D. Dickerson who published the paper about eighteen months; when it was sold to J. L. Sherman, who afterward sold out to B. C. Drake, who issued the paper, and for some time also published a daily; then the paper was published for a time by a Mr. Mitchell, and afterwards passed into the hands of L. U. Reavis. Mr. Reavis having published the paper for several years, it passed into the hands of a committee, composed of members of the Republican party, of which J. A. Arenz was the chairman. This committee were the owners of the paper for several years, and it was published by different persons, until in 1867, the paper came into the hands of John S. Nicholson.

From the time of sale by Mr. Emmons, the name of the paper was alternately the *Gazette* and *Central Illinoisan*, which latter name it still retains.

Mr. Nicholson has published the paper regularly, and under many trying circumstances, to the present day. It was first located in the building known as "the Great Western," which burned down. Then he moved the printing office into the Billing's block, in the third story, when in the night of Nov. 26, 1875, the entire block was consumed by fire, which destroyed the press and everything belonging to the office. The *Illinoisan* is now

published up stairs in the building owned by Sheriff Sielsehott, on Main street. From its long publication, and faithfully and ably advocating the interest of Beardstown, it deserves the patronage of the citizens of Beardstown.

In 1876 another paper was established, called *The Cass County Messenger*, of which Mr. George Dann was editor and publisher. This paper was purchased by Joseph P. Sailor in 1880, who changed its name to *Cass County Democrat*. The paper is published on the second floor of the building owned by the estate of H. Mohlmann, at the corner of Main and Jefferson streets. Mr. J. P. Sailor is its editor, and the paper is well gotten up and full of news.

The German newspaper was first established in 1877, by Rev. A. Schaberhorn, under the name of *The Beobachter am Illinois Fluss*. Mr. Schaberhorn being the editor and proprietor until 1878, when it was purchased by Mr. Theodore Wilkins, who edited the same under the name of *The Beardstown Wochenblatt*, until his death in 1881, when the paper was purchased by Ross & Son, who continue to edit and publish the same.

This paper has a very large circulation, and is gotten up with considerable ability and industry. It is of large size with a supplement to each number, and deserves the support and patronage it at present enjoys among its German readers.

*Railroads.*—When the era of railroads had come, causing a great revolution in business matters, benefiting some places, and cutting off the trade of towns which were not so fortunate as to obtain a railroad, Beardstown was for some years at great disadvantage, and desperate efforts were made by its citizens to secure railroad facilities.

Large sums were subscribed by the corporation, and large amounts were subscribed by private citizens, and Beardstown has now the benefits which arise from two railroads,

and there is a very fair prospect that there will be very soon a third one added.

The first subscription of the corporation was made March 1, 1857, to the Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis Railroad Co., of \$50,000, and between Dec. 1, 1857, and Feb. 1, 1869, another subscription of \$40,000 was made to the same company, and on Nov. 1, 1869, a further subscription was made to the same company for \$12,000.

January 1, 1871, there was issued to the Pana, Springfield & Northwestern R. R. Co., the sum of \$8,000, and to the Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis R. R. Co., Aug. 1, 1871, the further sum of \$40,000.

Bonds were issued for said amounts, running twenty years, and bearing interest at the rate of six, seven, and ten per cent., respectively. The whole amount issued is \$150,000, of which \$125,000 remain unpaid at this time.

The Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis R.R. is now in the possession of the C., B. & Q. R. R. Co., and the Pana, Springfield & Northwestern is now controlled by the O. & M. R. R. Co. The Rockford, Rock Island & St. Louis was completed between 1869 and 1871, and the Pana, Springfield & Northwestern in 1871.

*Lawyers and Doctors.*—The lawyers of Beardstown are: J. Henry Shaw, who is now the oldest practicing attorney here; Thomas H. Carter; Charles E. Wyman, city attorney; R. Hewitt, prosecuting attorney of Cass County; B. F. Thacker.

Doctors of Medicine are: H. H. Littlefield, H. Ehrhardt, B. Halm, George Bley, — Avery, T. A. Hoffmann, B. F. Grey, Moses M. Dowler.

*Dentists.*—F. Smith and William Hare.

*Banks.*—The Cass County Bank is managed by F. A. Hammer, president, and Charles E. Fulks, cashier; and the People's Bank, J. H. Harris, president, and Thomas K. Con-

dit, cashier. Both banks do a flourishing business.

The American Express Company has an office here, which is managed by its efficient and popular agent, E. F. Derr.

*Secret Societies.*—The Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Honor, Druids, A. O. U. Workmen, Mutual Aid, Young Men's Social Club, and other societies have lodges here.

There is also a temperance organization with a large membership, who meet once every week.

*Business Affairs at Beardstown.*—Before the railroad era, when the rivers were the main channels for carrying merchandise and produce, Beardstown was in possession of the most extensive pork trade of any western town, competing even with Cincinnati.

From 40,000 to 75,000 hogs were slaughtered annually, between the months of November and February.

Among the firms most largely engaged in pork-packing, of which some were large dealers in grain, were: Houston & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio; Gano, Thoms & Talbot, Col. McKee, Wheeling, Va.; Sydam, Sage & Co., New York.

The Beardstown grain dealers were: Nolte & McClure, S. M. Tinsley & Co., H. F. Foster, Horace Billings, D. Kreigh & Co., John McDonald, H. Chadsey & Co.

There were also many others, pork-packers in smaller quantities.

Among the dealers in grain before the railroad era, were Knapp & Pogue; Basset & Taylor; George Kuhl; Chase, Rich & Parker; George Volkmar & Co.; E. J. Dutch & Bro.; Thompson & Eames; J. W. Thompson & Co.; H. F. Foster & Co.

The present dealers in grain are: Garm, Wilson & Co.; George Kuhl; Hagener & Bro.

The business at the present time in Beardstown, in full operation, are: three houses dealing in agricultural implements, two banks,

four bakeries, four boot and shoe stores, four barber shops, four blacksmith shops, four butcher shops, one brick yard, one brewery, nine boarding and eating houses, four clothing stores, five dry good stores, one distillery, four drug stores, one foundry, two flouring mills, two furniture stores, eleven grocery stores, eight halls, three hardware stores, three hotels, ten large ice houses, four jeweler stores, two lumber yards, two livery stables, four millinery stores, one opera house, two photograph galleries, two saw mills, three saddle and harness shops, one scouring and dyeing establishment, three dealers in sewing machines, three stores of general merchandise, two tinware and stove stores, two undertakers, four watch and clockmakers, one sash and door factory.

There are also the shops of the C. B. & Q. railroad located here. Two railroad depots, one telephone office, having also connection with the city of Virginia, 13 miles distant.

Among the prominent men, now resting among the dead, who whilst living here, spent much of their time and means for promoting the interests of Beardstown, should be mentioned: Thomas Beard, Francis Arenz, Thomas and John Wilbourn, Thomas Graham, Knapp and Pogue, Thomas and Edward Saunders, B. W. Schneider, Bassett and Taylor.

Some of these honored dead have left no children or near relations living here to furnish a narrative of their lives, and a short sketch is therefore prepared by one who knew these men personally. The most of them were doing extensive business here at an early day in Beardstown. Messrs. Knapp and Pogue occupied the front rank in business affairs at the time when Beardstown became a town, and when that firm finally failed in business, Mr. Pogue acted as justice of the peace, until his death. Mr. Knapp went to New Orleans. The firm built several large business establishments, among which was

that capacious storehouse called "the Great Western," none of which buildings are now standing. Messrs. Thomas and John Wilbourn, among other buildings, erected a large mill, which afterwards burned down, and upon the lot where it stood, Messrs. Baujan & Co. erected a few years ago, their new mill. Wilbourn built also a store building upon the lot upon which the opera house now stands. That firm dissolved, and Nolte and McClure purchased their store goods. This latter firm moved their store to Main street, where for many years they transacted a very large amount of business, erected several substantial buildings, and contributed very materially to advance the interest of Beardstown.

Thomas Graham was a native of the city of Philadelphia, where his father was a prominent business man. He came here at an early day, and for several years kept store. His wife, also a Philadelphia lady, brought with her a piano, which was the first and only piano for several years in this part of the country. After the death of his wife, and reversals in business, he returned to Philadelphia.

Messrs. Basset & Taylor came here from Springfield and entered into the forwarding and commission business, dealing also in pork, grain, dry goods, groceries, etc., for many years. After the death of Mr. Bassett Taylor left here.

Thomas and Edward Saunders came from Philadelphia at an early day. They were engaged in business here for several years. Thomas R. Saunders was Recorder of Cass County. He died in Beardstown, leaving a widow and several children. Edward Saunders went to Chicago, where he died some years ago.

B. W. Schneider came to Cass County in 1834; was engaged in farming near Arenzville for several years. He then came to Beardstown and purchased from F. A. enz

his store on Main street, which he occupied as a liquor dealer and for other purposes. He purchased the lot of ground upon which the Opera house now stands, and erected a large hotel, which was carried on by himself and others, called the "Schneider House." He erected also other houses, but none of those buildings are now existing. He died here, leaving a widow and several children, none of whom are now living in Beardstown.

Mr. Thomas Beard was born in Granville, Washington County, N. Y., in 1795, from whence his father moved to Burton, Geauga County, O., in 1800.

Thomas Beard came to the State of Illinois in 1818, and for some time lived about Edwardsville and Alton, where he formed the acquaintance of Enoch March. Then he came to Beardstown in 1820, where his immediate neighbors, for a considerable time, were Indians and a few white people. He established the first ferry across the Illinois river, and obtained a license therefor from the County Commissioners' Court of Schuyler County, in 1826. In 1827 he, with Enoch March, a man of means, entered the land upon which Beardstown is located, and in 1829 the original town of Beardstown was laid out, platted and recorded; and several additions were made to the town afterward.

Mr. Beard was twice married. His first wife was Sarah Bell, by whom he had three children, of which only one is now living, in Nebraska. This marriage proved unhappy, and after his wife left him, a divorce was obtained in 1835, Mr. Beard retaining the children. Some years afterward he married a widow Dickerman, who had an only son, Willard A. Dickerman, who afterward became Colonel of the 103d Illinois Regiment, and fell in battle near Atlanta, Georgia, in the war for suppressing the Rebellion.

With his second wife, a lady of the most amiable and excellent character, esteemed by

every one, he had three children, of whom two are now living. Mr. Beard died here in November, 1849.

Mr. Beard, although he had not the advantages of a superior education, nevertheless was a man who had educated himself to such degree that he could get along very well in ordinary business matters. For industry, liberality, kindness and honesty, he had no superior.

The widow of Mr. Beard resides now in New York city, with her married daughter, a Mrs. Doane.

Mr. Horace Billings was a native of the State of Vermont, and came to Beardstown in the year 1843. Having been engaged in business in New York, Canada, and other places, he dashed into business here at once. There was nothing salable or purchasable in which he did not trade. Trading and speculating seemed to be his element. He was very quick of perception and in deciding the course to pursue, and there was no enterprise in or about Beardstown wherein Mr. Billings had not a leading hand. Sometimes he would miss his aim and sustain a loss, which, however, he bore like a true philosopher, neither lamenting nor fretting; but he generally succeeded, and his pork and grain speculations at times brought him very large returns, which he again applied to the extension of his business, and new enterprises. No one man has done more to build up the town and put it on the track to future prosperity than Mr. Billings. Among the many buildings he erected, the Park House is one. Some of these buildings are now standing, and some were consumed by fire. His energy was also directed to discover new channels for employment and traffic, and he added much to increase the population of Beardstown by inducing skillful mechanics and business men to settle here. Mr. Billings was a very good citizen, strictly temperate in his habits, using neither

strong drinks nor tobacco. He was a highly valued member of the Congregational Church, to which he contributed very liberally.

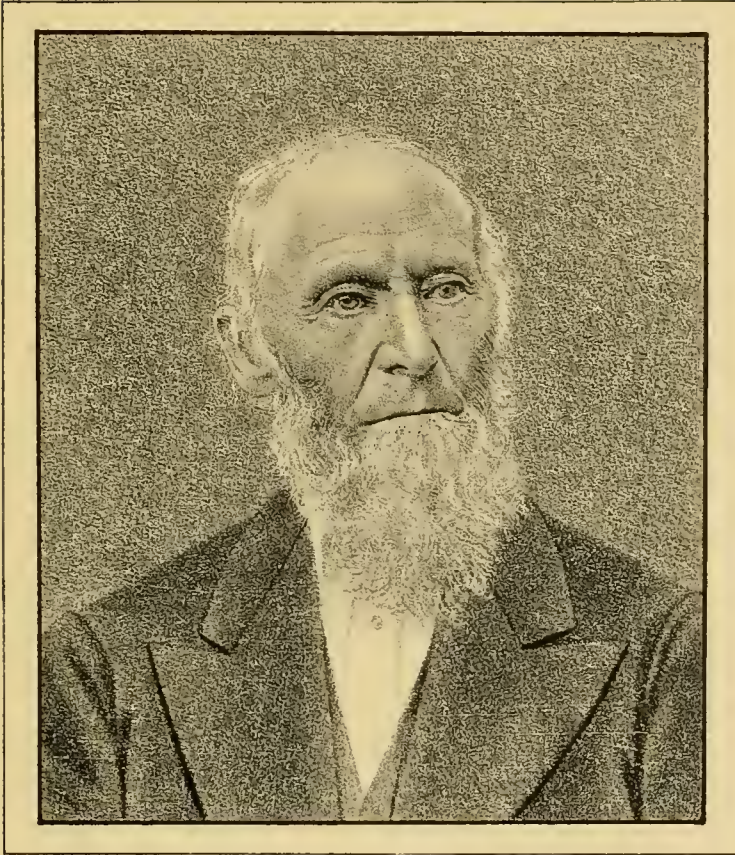
Mr. Billings married twice. His first wife, a very estimable lady, from New York, with whom he had two daughters, died here. His second wife, a very highly educated and very worthy lady, he married here, with whom he had one daughter.

When advanced age prevented Mr. Billings from active business engagements, he took up his place of residence in Jacksonville, in 1867, where he died in 1870.

Henry E. Dummer came to Beardstown about the year 1842, after he had resided in Springfield and Jacksonville before, and was the first, and for several years the only attorney-at-law, and his influence and counsel has been of very material benefit to the citizens of Beardstown. Very amiable and kind in disposition, and reliable in his counsel, he enjoyed the esteem and respect of all classes. Although a man of law, he never encouraged, instigated or favored litigation, and always advised amicable settlements and compromises, if possible; but when a case was carried through court he advocated faithfully and skillfully the interests of his client. He was very moderate in his charges, and felt more disposed to render services to his fellow men than to make money. In Beardstown he married Miss Phebe Van Ness, a very worthy young lady, which marriage proved to be a very happy event for both.

Mr. Dummer made himself useful when and wherever his fellow citizens desired his services. He served in the town and school board, as Alderman, City Attorney, Judge of Probate, member of the Constitutional Convention, State Senator, and other offices, all of which he filled with honor, and for the best interests of the people. He joined the church here, and became a sincere, true Christian. In 1865 Mr. Dummer removed to Jackson-





*John. Becker.*



ville, where he at once obtained a lucrative practice until the time of his death, about two years ago. He left a widow, two sons, and three daughters. As a lawyer he occupied the front rank, and as a citizen he had no superior. His memory will live in the hearts of his many friends until they also molder in their graves.

*War Record.*—The following comprises the names of the persons, who entered into the service of the United States from Beardstown and Precinct, for the suppression of the late Rebellion:

Third Regiment of Illinois Cavalry, Company C.: Captain, Charles P. Dunbaugh; Adjutants, J. S. Crow and Theodore Leland; Lieutenant, August Tilford; Q. M. Sergeant, Burr Sanders; Sergeant, Norman Parsons; Corporals, M. Richards, C. E. Burns, James Nason.

Privates: Joseph Anderson, Charles Boxmeier, William Boxmeier, Robert Bailey, Thomas M. Cuppy, William H. Chamblin, Charles Coleman, Martin Finney, Daniel Grant, Adam Gruling, Josiah McCandless, John Miniek, William Nicholson, W. H. Percival, Horatio G. Rew, jr., John G. Reeves, George Spicker, H. C. Simpson, George Wagner, William Wells, Joseph Barwick, John H. Beadles, John Hatfield, John Miller, Martin Treadway.

Recruits: Aaron Abney, Henry Coleman, George Chamblin, William De Haven, David Griffin, William Snow, George W. Snow, John R. Stephens, Henry Sturtevant, David A. Tull, David H. Wells.

Thirty-second Illinois Regiment, Co. G.: First Lieutenant, Charles A. Eames; Second Lieutenant, William Hitchcock, and musician, William J. Center.

Privates: John Beals, promoted to first lieutenant Co. E, Sixty-first Ill.; Melvin Burk, Thomas Barry, Thomas Bird, James Burns, Edward Cottrell, David Connell, Thomas Dar-

kin, Samuel DeHaven, Hugh Donnelly, Benjamin Eyres, John Fitzpatrick, John Flanagan, Andrew Gemming, Peter Grime, John Haven, James Harrell, William Hugo, Anton Hoffman, John B. Looman, William McDowell, George Swan, John Trihey, Seth Thompson.

Thirty-third Illinois Regiment, Company K. Captain, Charles E. Lippincott (promoted Colonel); Quarter-master of Regiment, R. B. Fuls.

Company Officers: Captain, E. H. Twining; 1st Lieutenant, J. H. Schuler; 2nd Lieutenant, W. H. Weaver; 1st Sergeant, H. P. Grund.

Privates: Herman Bohne, George Boemler, J. H. Betz, Moses M. Dowler, Thomas Eyre, George French, Conrad Hendricker, George C. Kuhl, George S. Kuhl, John Lauler, R. F. Lasley, David Matson, Charles Osten, William Paterson, Louis Benz, Joseph Sisiek.

Recruits: Edwin Carman, David J. Curry, Thomas Foxworthy, Josiah Hawkenberry, John Hawkenberry, George Hucke, Samuel Lyon, John Orr, Ab. Shoemaker.

Forty-seventh Illinois Regiment, Company F.—Privates—A. F. Cottrel, Benjamin Harris, Dewitt McCandles, Thomas Paschal, Woodford Sills.

One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Regiment. Major, Joseph M. McLane; Second Lieutenant, Albert McClure.

Sergeants: Norman Hitchcock (promoted First Lieutenant, Company K. 71 U. S. colored), Frederick Haid, Joseph Milton McLane.

Corporals: Joseph Wright, John Marshall, Joseph Riffer, Christ. Pilger.

Captains: Richard B. Adams, A. D. Adkins, John Anderson.

Privates: Louis Boemler, M. L. Brown, J. M. Cafferberger, William F. Crow, F. M. Davis, Asa Dean, Peter Douglas, Ezra Fish,

(promoted First Lieutenant Company K.), R. F. Kippenberg, C. E. Lawson, Riley McLane, Robert McCarty.

Eleventh Illinois Regiment: Luther J. Main, Thomas Miller, Asa N. Paschall (died in Andersonville, Aug. 20, 1864), Zach. Taylor, Geo. F. Unland, John T. Webb, Henry Weber, John Worm, John H. Wedeking, Thomas H. Williams, John Kleinstaubler, John Davis, John Truebswasser (died at Mound City hospital).

Recruits: Charles Boekemeier, Henry Fredenberg, Wm. Meizer, Philip Smith.

Second Illinois Battery: Lieutenants, Hoyer, Adolf Geils.

United States Navy: C. H. Gulick.

One Hundred and Forty-fifth Illinois Regiment—100 day men:

Captain, W. H. Weaver; Second Lieutenant, Ebenezer Fish; Sergeants, William De Haven, Edwin C. Foster; Corporals, James Caldwell, James A. Lindsay, William McClure, Edward Logan, Samuel Webb, Clinton Garrison, J. B. Sanders.

Privates: Abraham Black, Randall Block, Louis Cowan, Allen Cunningham, Thomas Cowan, David Clendenin, Ernest Corte, J. W. Chase, Charles Dunbaugh, Thomas J. De Haven, John S. Fulks, James Griffin, J. W. Hamilton, Guilford Judd, H. Livingston, H. C. McLane, George McDonnel, William Mayer, Henry C. Milnor, James H. Mathews, A. J. Norton, Rudolph Oliver.

One Hundred and Forty-Fifth Illinois Regiment. Privates: Frank Paterson, W. C. Rew, S. W. Robinson, William Roach, J. H. Rose, L. O. Spangler, Charles Schneider, Louis Ware, Eason White, Willis White, Christ. Mertz.

Third Illinois Cavalry, Company I. Benjamin F. Barron, Casper Coleman, James A. Geer, Warren H. Monett, Joshua Mibb, George Olden, William Ruff, William Rhodes, David Schrader, J. L. Wolford, Peter T. Wolford.

Second Illinois Cavalry. Private: F. Abbott.

Twelfth Regiment, Illinois Infantry. Company A: Thomas Bernhard, Martin Gottlieb.

Eighteenth Regiment Illinois Infantry. Company G: Sergeant, George Rauch; Corporals, Jas L. Black, W. O. Willis.

Privates: Andrew Blattner, Henry Brocker, Peter Flanery, Fred Holden, Thomas Harmel, Joseph Heine, Henry Knoess, Henry Lynn, Adam Lafie, Hugh Lyden, William Meyer, George J. McDarrel, F. K. Shever, George Taylor.

Eighty-second Illinois Regiment, Company E: Corporal, Simon Benz.

Privates: Anton Bihl, Charles Boekemeier, John Hieg, August Petri, William Ram, Anton Seiler, Philip Schmidt.

Fourteenth Regiment Illinois Infantry, Company A: Major, J. F. Nolte; Captain, Thomas M. Thompson; Captain, Charles Opitz; 1st Lieutenant, Henry Rodecker; and Augustine Snow; 2nd Lieutenant, David S. Finney; Sergeant, Eben H. Richardson; Corporals, Ed. E. Foster, Charles H. Harris, W. H. Dutch, David Carr.

Privates: William Armstrong, Lester Beals, Amos Burkhardt, Alonzo Buck, George Cummings, Ernest Corte, August Christianer, Joseph Ewing, Joseph Heine, John Hess, Joseph Huber, Caleb James, Edward Knight, Christian Kuhl, Thomas Lincoln, Abner Livermore, Dexter Loomis, Charles Luecking, Archibald McConnel, John S. Morgan, William C. Marrow.

Company G: Conrad Meyres.

Company A: Wm. Nelson, Charles Nickel, Andrew J. Norton, Lester J. Parmenter, William H. Parson, Henry C. Phelps, Reuben B. Pool, George M. Rhineberger, William Roach, Abraham J. Saylor, Christian Schramm, William Snow, William Sales.

Company G: William Stauff.

Company A: George H. Tracy, William Wisbey, Charles Williams.

Recruits: Charles Burrows, Henry C. Brown, James M. Ewing, Martin Finney, James S. McLin, George H. Parmenter, John W. Richardson, Henry Roach, Alonzo Snow, John F. Switzer, Louis Weaver, Benjamin Wood.

Sixty-first Regiment of Illinois Infantry, Company E. Privates: Edward W. Ellkin, John W. Glover, Anthony Hill, Daniel Rowley, William A. Squires, George W. Sanders, Nicholas Shoopman, Jacob O. Wells,

Madison Woods, Alpheus Wells, Asa F. Winfree.

Recruits: John C. Menkel, John McCormick, Peter Baxton, Walter Beals, Daniel B. Grant, William T. Melton, Charles Meyer, George T. Ruby, George L. Stone, George W. Shoopman, John H. Shoopman, Frederick Schnitker, Jacob Trommen.

The names of the persons serving during this war in the United States army, from the adjoining precincts of Arenzville, Indian Creek, Hickory and Monroe, are not herein given.

## CHAPTER XII.\*

## CHANDLERVILLE PRECINCT—TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES—PIONEER-TIMES—EARLY FAMILIES—EDUCATIONAL—SOCIETIES—MILLS—VILLAGE OF CHANDLERVILLE.

“Ye pioneers, it is to you  
 The debt of gratitude is due;  
 Ye builded wiser than ye knew  
     The broad foundation  
 On which our superstructure stands;  
 Your strong right arms and willing hands,  
 Your earnest efforts still command  
     Our veneration.”

CHANDLERVILLE Precinct lies on the southern side of Sangamon river, where a broad strip of bottom land, varying from one to two miles in width, forms the entire northern boundary of the precinct. This bottom land is, no doubt, the richest soil in the county, for the Sangamon river may be called the Nile of America, for it annually overflows, adding new deposits to the present richness of the soil.

Where the bottom lands terminate inland, a series of very high hills tower in natural majesty above the surrounding country, appearing at a distance like a range of mountains. These hills are now mostly overgrown with scrubby timber and dense underbrush, but in the memory of some of the old settlers, not a twig or tree could be seen over the broad surface of this elevated height. The Indians annually burning off the prairies, the fire would sweep over the hills, destroying the young timber that had started during the year. The oldest settlers say that at the present time there is five times as much timber in this part of the county as there was when they first settled in the country.

At the present time there are many beauti-

ful groves clustering at the foot of these hills, where many fine residences and beautiful gardens peep out amid their inviting foliage. There is considerable good timber on the banks of the Sangamon, along the bottoms of Big and Little Panther creeks, and along the valleys winding among the hills. The kinds of wood that grow native, are oak, maple, elm, sycamore, walnut, hickory, pecan, persimmon, and paw-paw. On the low grounds in early days the grass grew very tall, reaching to a man's waist on horseback, and the grass on the hills grew much higher and thicker than it does at the present day. Game at that time was very plenty. Wild turkeys and prairie chickens were without number; deer, wolves and raccoons were very numerous, and an occasional panther and lynx wandered through. All the game that is left now that in any way can interest the sportsman, are wild ducks, which yet continue to visit the Sangamon Bottoms when overflowed, in great numbers, hunters of ordinary skill killing from 80 to 100 ducks per day, 50 being considered a very poor day's work during the duck season.

The Pottawatomic Indians lived here till the year 1825, but they were of a very friendly character, and never molested in any way the peace and prosperity of the settlers. The precinct back from the hills is considerably rough and broken, and a large portion of that land was sold for 25c. per acre; the United States giving it to the State, and the State in turn gave it to the county, and the county sold it to the settlers at the above rate; much

\*By J. L. Nichols.

of that land, however, at the present time is worth from \$25 to \$40 per acre. There was government land in this precinct as late as 1856. The precinct at first was mostly settled by Southern people, and very few other families came till about 1832, except a few Yankee peddlers, who occasionally visited the settlement.

Who the first settlers were the writer finds some difficulty in ascertaining. Robert Leeper, James and Elijah Garner, William Myres, Thomas Plasters, Mark Cooper and Dr. Chandler, were probably among the first.

The settlers here, as in other new countries, came very poor. They lived in log cabins, many of them without floors or windows, using greased paper for the latter, and what little grain they raised had to be hauled to Beardstown and sold at a nominal price, and, there being no bridges at the time, it was often a difficult and dangerous journey.

The first bridge that was built was across Panther Creek, in 1838, just south of the village. A bridge was built by a Mr. Stindy across the Sangamon, but being so poorly framed and constructed, it gradually sunk, broke and separated by its own weight. It was re-built by Samuel Cook, of Chandlerville, in 1874, and is a permanent structure that will stand till its timbers decay. It braved the torrent of 1882 without yielding a timber, or the fragment of one. This bridge is a great benefit to the village of Chandlerville, as it brings a large proportion of trade from Mason County.

The first school taught within the present limits of the precinct, was the one taught by Mrs. Ingalls, given in the village history below; the second that the pioneer families patronized, was located about two and a half miles northeast of Chandlerville, on the land now owned by Moses Harlinson. Mr. Martin Morgan taught the first school, and the following were some of his schol-

ars: John Hash, James Dick, and his sister Sallie, and the children of the Myres family. The school-house was built by the charity and energy of Robert Leeper, and as a pioneer he deserves the highest encomium. There are now five district schools in the precinct; they are respectively known as the Levi Spring School, Brick School, John Way School, German School, and the Wilson School. The schools are well attended, and teachers are paid a salary, varying from \$25 to \$50 per month, according to the qualification and experience of the teacher.

The first saw and grist mill was built in 1828, on Panther creek, by A. S. West and William Morgan, Mr. Z. Hash getting out most of the timber for the mill. Robert Leeper subsequently bought the mill and run it for several years, when it was carried down stream by extraordinary high water. The second mill was built by Richard McDonald, one-half mile above Mr. Leeper's mill, on the same stream, and shortly after the building of the McDonald mill, Henry L. Ingalls built a mill about one-half mile below Mr. Leeper's mill. There were then three mills within one and a half miles of each other. Their principal business was sawing, but they also cracked corn. These two latter mills were also swept down stream, leaving scarcely a trace of their former existence. Panther creek was subject to a very sudden rise of water, and it came in such torrents as to sweep every thing before it. There are no mills on that stream at the present day. It does not run more than six months of the year in ordinary seasons, and could not in any way be considered a stream that would support the power for a mill of the smallest character, except in these extraordinary torrents that spare neither roads, bridges, or railroads.

The first road that received any degree of travel was called the Bottom Road to Beardstown. This was a winding route over the

most elevated portions of the bottom, as the low places were often marshy and very difficult to cross. On the ridge formed in the middle of this road by the horses and oxen wearing out foot-paths, as is often seen now on our prairie roads, there used to grow and flourish some of the finest wild strawberries that were produced on the bottoms. They looked like a row of cultivated fruit, and in their season were truly an inviting curiosity. Travelers that came during that time can never forget the richness and beauty of those almost endless rows of native berries. Wild fruit was very common here in an early day. Plums, persimmons, raspberries, blackberries, and strawberries were very plentiful and much more numerous than at the present day. It was all the change the early settlers had from coarse bread and pork, as but very little sugar or dried fruits could be afforded or indulged in, in those days of pioneer economy.

The wild land has all been subdued or turned into fine pastures. Beautiful homes and cultivated fields smile all over the precinct. The farmers have improved their stock, and some of the finest horses, hogs, and cattle that the State produces are raised in this part of the county.

#### CHANDLERVILLE.\*

Early in the spring of 1833, a colony from Rhode Island were about to leave their native hills and seek homes in the distant wilderness of the West. But the members of the colony hearing of so many Indian massacres in the Western States, there was but one of the party that dare venture and carry out the original design; that man was Dr. Chas. Chandler. While coming up the Illinois river with his wife and little daughter Jane, now Mrs.

\*The writer, having found some matters particularly appropriate to Chandlerville, in the oration delivered in 1876, by Hon. J. H. Shaw, he has taken the liberty of incorporating them in this article.

Shaw, and hearing of the Indian troubles at Ft. Clark, since called Peoria, the place of destination, they concluded to go no further, and consequently landed at Beardstown. While there Dr. Chandler took a ride up the Sangamon bottom with Thomas Beard, and was so charmed by the lay of the land and richness of the soil, and the thrift of vegetation, that he determined at once to make a settlement, and immediately entered 160 acres of land where Chandlerville now stands, and before the summer of his first arrival had passed he had built a comfortable log cabin and found a crop of buckwheat blossoming at his door. His cabin was erected on the spot now occupied by the Congregational Church, and his plow was the first that stirred the native soil within the limits of the village. He was a man of untiring industry, and began at once the practice of his profession, performing wonders in the healing art, and prodigies of toil, often riding seventy or eighty miles, and not unfrequently one hundred per day. His practice extended over what is now known as Cass, Morgan, Brown, Schuyler, Sangamon, Menard, Mason, and Fulton Counties. In December, 1833, the humble cabin received a brother of the Doctor, Marcus Chandler, wife and only son Knowlton, with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ingalls. In 1834, Squire Bonney and family, with a nephew, Geo. Bonney, also Mr. Hicks and family, were added to the colony.

A Sabbath school was early in 1835 organized through the united efforts of Mrs. Marcus Chandler, Mrs. H. S. Ingalls, and Mr. Robert Leper, which was well attended and did much good.

The Sabbath school was held at the residence of Mrs. Ingalls, and may be said to be the first religious assembly ever held in the community.

The settlers at this time marketed all their grain and farm produce at Beardstown, and purchased all the necessary articles within



their means that their families and farms were most seriously in need of; also most of their repairing was done there.

In 1834 or '35 Dr. Chandler built a blacksmith-shop, and the year following built the first store, where now Mr. Pilcher's place of business stands. Dr. Chandler did not do this so much as a business speculation and to make money, as he did to benefit and accommodate the settlers, many of them having nothing but ox-teams, and a journey to Beardstown was not at all a desirable trip, or one that many of our farmers desire to-day with all our modern improvements.

Dr. Chandler continued in business about two years, when he closed out his stock to C. J. Newberry, who was shortly after succeeded by Mr. Chase, and he, after continuing business for several years, was bought out by Dr. Chandler and his brother Marcus. They did a very flourishing and extensive business, and in connection with their general; they bought and packed pork, putting up about three thousand hogs annually for many years in succession. In 1849, the two prosperous brothers met with the misfortune of having their store burned down, and their stock badly damaged, but the store was quickly rebuilt, and their former business re-established. At one time they had about four hundred bushels of pecan nuts, for which they paid one dollar and fifty cents per bushel, and shipped the same to St. Louis, and sold them for three dollars per bushel. In 1850, Dr. Chandler and his brother sold their entire business to William Way, who has been in business, and witnessed the prosperity of the village from that time to the present.

The early growth of the village was not rapid, for in 1848 there were but the following families within its limits: Dr. Chandler, Rev. S. Smith, O. Hicks, J. B. Shaw, Elisha Olcott, D. Marcy, Levi McKee, H. L. Ingalls, Widow Harbeson and Mr. Chase.

The mail at this time was brought from Beardstown by the little sons of Dr. Chandler, and distributed at his place of business, he being the regular appointed postmaster, and assisted by Mr. Shaw, then a clerk in the store. The post office was known as Panther Creek till 1851, when Gen. C. E. Lippincott wrote to Col. E. D. Baker,\* then member of Congress, and had the name of the office changed to Chandlerville.

A cooper shop was started about this time, also a wagon shop. The latter business was one of the most successful enterprises of the settlement, Levi McKee being the proprietor. And the McKee wagons were known all over the country as the most durable and best made wagons of the county. Dwight Marcy in 1849, kept the first hotel just north of Panther creek, on the land now owned by Gen. Lippincott, where he continued business till the present hotel was converted from a warehouse into a hotel, being built by Dr. Chandler, and used for a general house of storage, etc., while he continued in business.

In 1850, Mr. Olcott, who had for several years been a clerk for Dr. Chandler, built a store and warehouse in company with Mr. Sanders, where a thriving business for several years was carried on. The firm dealt largely in wheat, hogs, tallow, &c. In 1854, Dr. Reed and T. N. Canfield built the first regular drug store, drugs having been kept and sold by the other stores many years previous, but no separate store had been built before for that special purpose. The building was erected in the western part of Dr. Reed's present lot, and long since has been removed. This store was a very attractive place of business for many years. Dr. Reed had an extensive practice, and like Dr. Chandler, not unfrequently traveling 100 miles a day to visit a patient.

There was an unusual custom among the

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\* Who was killed at Ball's Bluffs.

settlers that every man should be entitled to eighty acres of land on each side of his first entry as soon as he could pay for it at government price, \$1.25 per acre. And it was considered as mean as stealing for another man to violate this established custom of the settlers. Shortly after Dr. Chandler settled here, a man by the name of English came to the settlement and was much pleased with the country. The Doctor assisted and befriended him all he could, and offered to give up a claim to one eighty to induce him to stay, but English, hog-like, told him that he was going to Springfield and enter the whole tract adjoining; that he did not care for the customs of the country, and that he was going to have it right or wrong, and started at once for Springfield. The Doctor went to his cabin, counted his money, and found only fifty dollars. The deficit was made up through the kindness of his neighbor, McAuly. Thus provided, he started at once for the State capital with the determination of beating English if possible. He took a different route through the woods and prairies from that chosen by his greedy friend. When about ten miles from the land office, he overtook two young men on horseback, and his horse foaming in perspiration was about tired out; and while riding along with these young men, he related to them the cause of his haste, when one of them, the tallest of the two, was so indignant that he offered the Doctor his own horse, which was comparatively fresh, so that he might defeat the plans of English; but the Doctor declined the courtesy, got there on his own horse, and entered his land before his rival got to the city of Springfield. Sometime after Dr. Chandler wanted his land surveyed, and sent for a young surveyer who lived at Salem, Sangamon county, and when he arrived he proved to be the same young man that the Doctor had overtaken on his way to Springfield, and that had so kindly offered his

horse. That man was Abraham Lincoln, and the land, where Chandlerville stands, and some considerable country adjacent, was surveyed by him.

Dr. Chandler was a man of stirring energy. He built the first frame house, 10 by 12, one story, ever built in Cass County, and he built the present large residence on the Chandler estate in 1836, which is yet among the finest residences in the village. He was one of the first physicians in Central Illinois who adopted quinine in his practice as a remedy, and the first who opposed bleeding as a remedy for disease. When he first came to the Sangamon bottom he was called into practice before he could build a stable for his horse, and when at home, for weeks his wife cut grass with the shears to feed it, as there were no scythes in the vicinity to be had for love or money.

The Doctor was also a man of charity as well as enterprise. He gave all the lots on which all the churches are built, except the Christian church, and that he sold to the society for half its real value; he also gave the lots for the three public parks, and donated the land for the cemetery. He was always a liberal contributor to the church, and all benevolent institutions. He was the founder of the town, and a father to it while he lived.

Since 1856, many valuable accessions to the social and business power of the community have been made; good mechanics, active business houses, sustained by a large intelligent farming population, energized by the iron aid of a new railway, passing directly through their midst, and all tolerably permeated by Christian character and influence, Chandlerville hopes a future of useful thrift.

The present village was laid out in 1848, when the first lots were sold. The town was first incorporated in 1858, under the General Act, and under a more special act in 1861. The incorporate area is exactly one mile square.

The first members of the first village council were Dr. Chas. Chandler, J. W. Gladding, W. S. Way, Elisha Olcott, Levi McKee, with Gen. C. E. Lippincott, as clerk. The present members of the board are: A. G. Colson, W. K. Mertz, Robert Clark, August Zorn, C. C. Brown, W. H. Pilcher, with A. G. Colson, as president, E. H. Henkel, clerk, and S. C. Fielden, treasurer.

At present there are twenty-nine business places in the town; many of the buildings are of brick, and the village, in general, has very a promising business outlook.

The first Masonic Lodge was chartered October 7th, 1874, with the following charter members: Linus C. Chandler, C. C. Brown, John Chandler, J. A. Paddock, L. M. Dick, Robert Clark, N. H. Boon, H. T. Chandler, N. S. Reed, Isaac Butcher, John Kershaw, John Mullen, Thos. Mullen, J. M. Telles, Wm. Swartwood, T. A. Skaggs, Henry C. Neff, Commodore Silvernail, and John C. Morse. L. C. Chandler was elected the first Worshipful Master, and John Morse, secretary. The present officers: Levi M. Dick, W. M.; Robert Clark, S. W.; Thomas Skaggs, J. W.; T. P. Renshaw, Treasurer; Arthur Pendleton, Secretary; L. C. Chandler, S. D.; J. B. Morgan, J. D.; August Zorn and M. D. Skaggs, Stewards; T. R. Say, Tyler. The Lodge was first organized through the efforts of L. C. Chandler. At first a dispensation was refused, but Mr. Chandler went to Dixon, interviewed the grand master, and by urgent appeal, he set aside his former decision and granted a dispensation and charter. The first meeting was held in June, 1874.

In the spring of 1882, Chandlerville suffered considerably from high water; many of the houses were surrounded with water up to the windows, and the water reaching up Main street as far as the Chandlerville mill. The water was higher than it ever was known before.

The Sangamon Valley Mill was built in 1872, by Messrs. Paddock & Slink. It is a handsome brick structure, costing \$10,000 to complete it. The above parties did a successful milling business for two years, when they sold two-thirds of their interest to James Abbott and William Howarth, Mr. Paddock holding a third interest till his death, which occurred two years after. Messrs. Abbott & Howarth then purchased the remaining third from the heirs of Mr. Paddock. In 1874, the boiler exploded, damaging the mill to the extent of \$2,000, and killing the engineer, Joseph Davis. Mr. Davis had been a successful engineer all his life, and the cause of the explosion will no doubt always remain a mystery; whether it occurred by neglect, or through some defect of the machinery can not be ascertained.

Smith & Carr's grist mill was raised in 1875, at a cost of \$5,000, by G. B. Skaggs & Bro. They continued in the mill sixteen months, when they sold it to James Tantrum, who, in turn, sold it to W. W. Baker, and shortly afterward it was sold to the present owners, Messrs. Smith & Carr, who have been doing a very flourishing business for the past two years, grinding about 50,000 bushels of grain annually. The engine is in charge of Mr. A. Garrett, who is an old R. R. engineer, and thoroughly understands the business. The millers are also men of tried experience, and Chandlerville can boast of as good flour as is made in the State.

In 1874, the first newspaper of the village, called the *New Era*, was edited by J. J. Bunce & Son. After running the paper with very moderate success about one year, they closed out their interest, for the people did not seem to appreciate the depth of their editorials, or the newsy merits of their local columns; or in other words, were not as hungry for "Era" news as the proprietors of the paper had at first anticipated.

The next paper that broke the monotony of village gossip, was the *Cass County Journal*, which was established by Chas. A. Pratt, August 5, 1876. This paper was fairly patronized, and prospered with a good home reputation. It continued under the name and management to the middle of February, 1878, when the office was purchased by G. B. Skaggs, who was assisted by his brother, J. W. They brought out their first issue, March 16th of the same year, under the firm name of J. W. & G. B. Skaggs. As the paper was of different parentage from the *Journal*, it was no more than right that they should give it a name of their own choice. They called it the *Chandlerville Independent*, a name well chosen, and adapted to the position the paper politically assumed. It was successfully conducted by the two brothers till Nov. 11, 1878, when J. W. Skaggs retired from the publishing business. The paper was then under the sole management of G. B. Skaggs up to Dec. 5, 1879, when the name of the firm was changed to Skaggs & Spink, Mr. E. Spink, of Havana, having assumed one-half interest. The *Independent* was then very satisfactorily managed till September, 1881, when Mr. Spink, by mutual consent, withdrew from the firm, leaving the paper under its present manager. The paper is now on solid basis, nearing its 7th year of unabated prosperity, and having a fine run of advertising, a growing subscription list, and a man widely known and highly respected for its editor and manager. Its future truly looks promising.

"Beneath the rule of men entirely great  
The pen is mightier than the sword."

*Schools.*—One of the most popular and interesting features in the history of Chandlerville, is the growth and prosperity of her schools. The village spares neither labor nor money to make the public school one of the most progressive of the county. The civilized world is fast realizing that one school master

with his primer is worth a legion of soldiers. The sword with its blood and carnage has done its cruel work. We now have more need of teachers than of soldiers; reason and common sense are fast taking the place of the musket and the cannon, and books have become the arsenals of great nations. After a few families had clustered beneath the shadows of the great hills that overlook the site of the present village, they began to look after educational interest of their growing families. About the year 1835, Mrs. Henry Ingalls opened a select school at her own residence, and among some of her first scholars were: Mary J. Chandler, now Mrs. Shaw, Sarah Perrin, who became the wife of Marcus Chandler, Nancy Leeper, afterward the wife of Mr. S. Paddock, Nolton H. Chandler, Louis Bonney, Mary Wing, and J. Plasters. Mrs. Ingalls, after teaching several terms, discontinued the work, owing to the increasing cares of her family, and was succeeded by Emily Chandler Allen, who taught one year in the residence of Dr. Chandler. Mr. John Rickert then opened his private residence for the education of the youth, three-fourths of a mile south of the present village, on what is known as the Hash farm, and taught one of the best pioneer schools of the country. He was a Quaker by profession and practice, and ruled not with the ferule and rod, but with love and Christian kindness.

In 1838, Dr. Chandler built a small frame building about 12 by 12, in the eastern part of the village, and fitted it up with necessary seats, etc., for a school-room, and gave the use of it free of all charge to the community for three years. Mrs. Ingalls, meantime, had resumed the work of teaching, and taught till the spring of 1841, when the building put up by Dr. Chandler became too small for school purposes. It was concluded to remove the school to the Congregational Church,

which was built that same year, and completed before the winter term of school was to be opened. The school was then successively taught by Miss Dunham, who afterward became the wife of Amos Bonney, Miss E. Pease and Miss Hosford; the latter was sent from Vermont by Gov. Slade, Dr. Chandler guaranteeing a certain salary, but the people failing to patronize the school as much as he anticipated, he was compelled to make up the deficit by paying it out of his own pocket. Mr. D. Craig, Peter Rickert, and Emily Chandler, were among the successful teachers that followed.

Miss Helen Cotton and a Miss Harris, in 1851, came West, to follow the profession of teaching; one was to land at Beardstown, and the other at Chandlerville, and they concluded to decide by lot where each was to settle in the chosen work. It fell to Miss Cotton's lot to come to this embryo village and assume the work of teaching. No better fortune could have favored the citizens of this place. She was a woman of brilliant talents, and made use of every opportunity to do good and ennoble the minds of those under her care and supervision. She afterward became Mrs. Goodell, but losing none of her energy and influence by assuming the duties of the family. Mrs. Ingalls, Mr. Rickert and Miss Cotton, were the pioneer teachers of Chandlerville, who have yet among modern teachers to find a rival. The schools up to this time were all select, each scholar paying \$2.50 per quarter tuition. The teachers were usually boarded by the patrons or friends of the school, free of charge.

Previous to 1841, a log cabin was used for a time as a school house, where the boys with baited fish-hooks and lines, used to fish for rats through the open cracks in the floor, that being their only pastime, while the vigilant eyes of the teacher were not upon them. In 1856, a common frame building

was erected on one of the same lots now enclosed within the limits of the present school yard. Mr. N. S. Canfield was among the first teachers who taught in the new building. The school now began to assume some proportions of size, and much more attention began to be paid to educational matters.

In the autumn of 1868, a part of the present brick building was designed and built by the following committee: Dr. Chandler, P. Neff, and P. T. Norton. In 1878 the school building seemed insufficient to comfortably seat all the pupils attending school, and an addition of two rooms was added by the directors, L. C. Chandler, Robert Clark, and R. R. Cromlich. The whole building now contains five rooms, and cost the village \$6,000. The first principal in the new building was Maria Elam, and her first assistant Ella Duneway. The present board of directors are: Robert Clark, B. Bowman, and Albert Smith. The building now is used exclusively for school purposes, but the wooden building, previous to the present structure, was built with the understanding that its doors should be open to all public speakers, lecturers, Church services, shows and elections, or any thing by way of public instruction or entertainment of a moral character.

The public school of Chandlerville is very popular. It is patronized by citizens of all classes and of all denominations; sectarian and political biases have been sedulously avoided in its management, and it is the single aim of those in charge of the school, and of the citizens alike, to give the youth of the town the best possible training, both in intellect and morals. The course of study is so arranged that pupils leaving school at the age of twelve or fourteen, are able to write and read well, have a good understanding of the fundamental principles of arithmetic, and a general knowledge of geography, and a good preparation for business in general.

*Congregational Church.*—In the fall of 1836, October 16th, a Presbyterian church was organized by Revs. Albert Hale and Sherron Baldwin, holding their services for the time being in the house of Dr. Chandler.

The church at first was composed of five members only, Mr. and Mrs. Sewall, Mr. Marcus Hicks, Mrs. Marcus Chandler, and Mrs. Lavinia Ingalls, all being Presbyterians in their religious proclivities, except the two latter, who bringing letters from Congregational churches, were united with the society.

About 1841 or 1842, a church building was erected at cost of \$700. It was then decided by a vote of the members (the number having been increased to nearly twice the original number), that the building should be known as a Congregational church; but there remains no formal record of any formal change in the ecclesiastical relation of the church organization till October, 1847, when it became Congregational, according to the reports made to the Southern Association of Illinois, with which it is at present connected. In the early beginning, the little band of Christ's disciples were indebted to the members of the Illinois College Faculty for nearly all their spiritual food—President Sturtevant and Professor Turner preaching to them, and administering the Sacrament. Revs. Hale and Baldwin also visited them at stated times, to aid the society in their Christian work.

The first pastor was Prof. J. B. Turner, from Jacksonville, who in 1841 was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Pond, and Mr. Pond was succeeded by Rev. Socrates Smith, who came under the auspices of the American Home Missionary Society, and he was followed by the following ministers: Thomas Lippincott, the father of General Lippincott, Allyn S. Kellogg, Wm. Barnes, O. C. Dickinson, J. R. Kennedy, George Paddock, P. A. Beane, S. B. Goodenough, Henry Perkins, and J. M. Bowers.

The present officers of the Church are Dr. N. S. Read, Thomas Ainsworth and J. H. Goodell, and this Church has a membership of 51, who are all liberal and enthusiastic in their Christian work.

The Sabbath school is a very prominent feature of the Church, largely attended, and far superior to most of the Sabbath schools found in similar villages. Dr. N. S. Read has been its Superintendent for the past twenty-seven years, beginning with but 25 scholars and now numbering over 200. Dr. Read has been a zealous worker, and the prosperity and progress of the Sabbath school is largely due to his untiring energy. He is the right man in the right place.

*Methodist Church.*—A few Methodist families held their first meetings at the residence of Squire Bonney, whenever they were able to secure the services of a minister from the neighboring settlements. Revs. Springer, Cartwright, Ridgeley, Garner and Wyatt, were among the first clergymen that administered to the spiritual wants of their brethren at Chandlerville. The Society was first placed in circumstances to employ a regular minister by Messrs. Bonney, Richard, McDaniel, Procter and Hicks. These were men of energy, and labored not only for themselves, but for the benefit of the community and the moral elevation of their fellow-men. They hired the Congregational church for their Sabbath services, and continued there for about three years, when they found themselves sufficiently strong to build an edifice of worship for themselves. This latter enterprise was largely brought about by the labors of Elisha Olcott. They built their present church about the year 1851, at a cost of \$1,200, the lot being donated by Dr. Chandler.

The church grew very prosperous, and its membership quite large. It was doing a noble work in the Christian cause, when it was des-

tinued to suffer greatly from emigration, many of its leading members going West, or settling in different parts of the State, among whom were: Mr. Olcott, John Boycourt, N. Canfield and T. Way. The church, however, though somewhat embarrassed, did not lose courage, but kept its armor bright, and is still "marching along" with moderate prosperity. Rev. Charles Forree is the present pastor.

*Catholic Church.*—The members of the Catholic Society held their first meetings at the residence of Mr. P. Neff for about three years, when they formally organized in 1874, and thereafter continued their Sabbath worship in the hall, over the store of Mr. Neff. Father Ryan has officiated as pastor for the past four years.

Mr. Neff was the leading spirit in originating and pushing the society organization; he organized a Sabbath school about one year before the church society was organized, paying twenty-five dollars rent out of his own pocket. He has kept up the Sabbath school ever since, and no doubt will continue to figure as one of the most prominent men of the society till a church is built, furnished and supplied.

*Christian Church.*—Elder D. W. Shurtleff came from Beardstown in the winter of 1862, and preached to a few Christian families in the vicinity of Chandlerville, and February 15th, of the same winter, at Pleasant Ridge school-house, the church was first organized with the following members: Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Wilson, W. D. Leeper, S. B. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bradshaw, Smith Wilson, Nancy Smith, Luey Curtis, Julia Curtis, Clarissa Briggs and Barbara Lucus. W. D. Leeper, assisted by S. B. Jones, were the prime movers in getting Elder D. W. Shurtleff into the settlement. They were the men that formed the first nucleus of the church, and around which clustered the developing

interest of the Christian work. The church was greatly stimulated and strengthened by some stirring revivals. Prof. McCaukle, of Eureka College, and Elder A. G. Kane, of Springfield, were among the most prominent that awoke the community to a Christian sense of duty. Their words of warning and entreaty sank deep and reverently into many hearts, and great numbers were converted and added to the fold of the Master. The members were united, and as one, in their social and religious relations, brotherly and sisterly love ruled every motive, and ere three years had scarcely passed from the date of their first organization, they found themselves sufficiently strong to build a church of their own; the present handsome, convenient frame building was erected at a cost of \$2,700. The building committee that designed and constructed, and supervised the work in general, consisted of the following persons: Robert Cole, J. A. Raines, S. B. Jones, and James Armstrong. Elders John Raines and Albert Rice preached on alternate Sabbaths, the first year after the church was completed. The church, under the leadership of J. W. Monser and M. R. Elder and the two pastors, just mentioned, saw its brightest days; its membership was swelled to one hundred or more members; peace and prosperity smiled upon the church.

A Sabbath school, numbering some seventy or eighty scholars, was among one of the most interesting and progressive features of the society. Dr. N. H. Boon and Douglass McGee were among the most earnest workers in the Sabbath school, one or the other being superintendent most of the time for many years.

It was wonderful to see how rapidly the church grew, but more wonderful to see how quickly it crumbled and its members divided and scattered. "A house divided against itself can not stand."

For the past two years no regular Sabbath services have been held, though occasional services occur.

*Lutheran Church.*—The German Evangelical Lutheran church was built in the year 1870. The society was organized about six months previous and held their meetings in the Congregational and Christian churches.

The original members of the church were: J. Eichenaur, H. Schneider, J. Craft, J. Mush, G. Zorn, F. Brauer, H. Doring, C. Boensel and H. Joeckel. Eichenaur, Schneider, Brauer and Boensel being all that are left of the original little band of worshipers. The church has been very progressive under the following pastors: Mr. Weisinger, Mr. Baumann, A. Willner and A. D. Greif; the latter being the present pastor, and of an earnest, industrious turn of mind. He has organized a day school, and teaches four days of the week. The church building is an ordinary wooden frame, not large but pleasantly situated. The membership is thirty, which is considered large for the number of German families residing in the vicinity.

*Professional.*—The legal or forensic interest of the village is exclusively in the hands of Hon. L. C. Chandler, a son of Dr. Chandler. He has been prosecuting attorney one term of four years, and a member of the legislature. He is a man widely known, and does all the business in his line that originates in the town.

Dr. Reed and Dr. N. H. Boon lead the medical profession of the village, being men of large experience, and widely known. People do not hesitate to employ them. They have a large practice and are among the oldest and most respected citizens of the village.

In closing our chapter of Chandlerville, we can not refrain from offering a brief tribute to

the memory of its founder, Dr. Chandler. The early community of Chandlerville was patriarchal in its characteristics. It originated in the self-sacrificing devotion of its founder; its first steps were directed and carefully guarded by his judgment, and in its maturer years bears his name and the impress of his character.

It is difficult to imagine the early prosperity of this settlement without the material and moral support of Dr. Chandler. He was the central figure in its early history, and lost none of his prominence while he lived. Coming as a benefactor, he allowed no desire for private ends to swerve him from his chosen course. He sought to establish a center of civilizing influence; his was a mission of good, and the records of his time bear ample testimony of his faithfulness to such a cause; the sick, the unfortunate, found in him a helpful friend; public enterprises were placed beyond the danger of failure by his efforts; struggling merit never failed for lack of material aid when solicited of him, while his old account-books, bearing the names of every member of the settlement in those early days, tell many a tale of his devotion to his people. His support of the Church and school was liberal, frequent and voluntary. He labored for the common good and the elevation of mankind. Some three years ago, to the regret and sorrow of all who knew him, "God's finger touched him, and he slept."

All honor be, then, to these gray old men,  
When at last they are bowed with toil;  
Their warfare then o'er, they battle no more,  
For they've conquered the stubborn soil.  
And the chaplet each wears, is the silver hairs,  
And ne'er shall the victor's brow  
With a laurel crown to the grave go down,  
Like the pioneer sons—of fame, renown.



## CHAPTER XIII.\*

## ASHLAND PRECINCT—PHYSICAL FEATURES—EARLY SETTLERS—PIONEER TIMES—SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES—THE VILLAGE OF ASHLAND.

THE first settlers, who gazed upon the broad waste of prairie, the unmolested groves, dense and tangled with brush and briar, before a plow had touched the virgin soil, or an ax had struck a tree, little thought that all this wilderness, in their own day, before their own locks were silvered with the thread of time, would be made to blossom as a garden. Little thought had they of seeing beautiful homes, waving fields of golden grain, green pastures and grazing herds, where the bounding deer, crouching panther and howling wolf, held unmolested sway.

Little thought they that in their time, furnaces, forges, fire and steam, amid the noise and whirl of swift and bright machinery, would sow, reap, bind, thresh, grind and market their grain. Labor and invention are man's greatest functions, and wonderful are the changes the past half century has wrought.

Ashland Precinct has an area of twenty-two miles. It formerly was much larger, including a greater portion of Philadelphia Precinct within its original boundary. There is but little timber within its present limits; Panther Grove, in the northern portion of the precinct, with here and there a few scattering trees, may be said to be all the timber worth mentioning. The land originally was mostly prairie; it is quite level but very productive. The soil is of a dark color and varies from one to three feet in depth.

There are no streams worthy of mention in the precinct; Panther Creek takes its rise in

Panther Grove, and becomes quite a stream in its course to the Sangamon River.

Mr. Eli Cox was the first settler who came into Ashland Precinct; he "blazed" the first tree on the corner of his claim in 1818, and he is one of the oldest settlers of Cass County. He is very peculiar and anomalous in his ways, accumulating considerable property and money, but never could be induced to deposit his surplus money outside of his own house or premises, deeming the banks very hazardous and unsafe, and consequently he has been the victim of robbers for the third time. The last time he was assaulted was Aug. 19, 1882. A party of masked villains burst into his apartments, thinking he had some \$3,000 in his possession, and tortured him in a very brutal manner; they placed burning coals at his feet, heated a poker, and cruelly and dangerously burnt other portions of his body; also hanging him by the neck several times, hoping thereby to force from him a confession as to the whereabouts of his money, but the Wednesday previous he had been prevailed upon by his lawyer in Jacksonville to deposit his money in a bank, and consequently the fiends secured but \$45 as the reward of their midnight assault upon a helpless and defenceless old man. A family by the name of Shiltz occupied a portion of the house, but their guns being unloaded, the family were rendered helpless, and with cocked revolvers at their door were quietly requested to remain in their apartments.

In 1820, Mr. Cox settled on his present farm, where he has ever since resided. Will-

\* By J. L. Nichols.

iam Crow and William Cooper settled in the precinct soon after Mr. Cox had located. Ashland Precinct was not generally settled till comparatively a late date, the land being mostly prairie, and the first settlers, coming from timbered countries, thought it impossible to locate on the prairie, where there was no timber. David R. Short made an effort in 1830, to get away from the timber, and took up a claim where Joshua Atkins now resides, but after the first year's trial he became discouraged, and sold out his interest in the land to his uncle, Samuel Short, who resided then in Sangamon County. Even at that late date it was thought by most of the settlers that the prairies would remain an "everlasting waste," but they were soon undeceived, for the prairie lands soon became the most desirable to be secured. In 1831, Stephen Lee built a cabin in Panther Grove, and John Miller and Alfred Dutch soon moved into the precinct, and began improving farms. In 1824, when Adams, Jackson and Clay ran for president, there were not enough settlers in the precinct to organize an election, and it was several months after the election before they heard the result.

The deep snow occurred in the winter of 1830 and 1831, and this seems to be the principal data the old settlers have, dating most of the events of their early history in the settlement of the county, as occurring before and after that winter. Charivaring and dancing were the principal amusements of the young. The charivari is of French origin, but quite generally practiced as a means of amusement in that early day, and to some extent at the present.

Mr. Alfred Dutch built the first frame house ever erected in the precinct, in 1834. It was an elegant building for those early times, but he came with some means, and took pride in making himself and family comfortable.

The first settlers received but little mail,

and the first post office was at Jacksonville. Their market was St. Louis, and the journey there, a distance of 100 miles or more, took from seven to eighteen days, the roads being very roundabout, and often very difficult. They drove, also, their cattle and hogs to that distant market, a task which the farmers of to-day would deem almost an impossibility. Those who have lived only in the era of railroads, steamships and electricity, know but little of the privations, hardships and sufferings their pioneer fathers endured; they know but little of what it was to build cabins, subdue the wild prairies, and narrow down the groves, with no tools or machinery except the ax, spade and plow; but those times have forever passed away, and will only be known as facts of history.

The first pioneers of the precinct were not a Godless people, but early and devotedly counseled together, devising every means possible for promoting religious and moral influences in the community. They held meetings in private cabins, school-houses and groves; wherever a few Christian families could assemble, the word of God would be preached. Peter Cartwright, the famous pioneer preacher, was a devoted friend to the early settlers in this section of the country. As early as 1823 we find him preaching in the cabin of Mr. Crow, to the following families: Samuel Short, William Cooper, Stephen Short, John Cox, Samuel Robinson, R. Heads-peth, William Miller, and James Watson. Many similar meetings in various cabins of the settlers were held for many years.

The Centenary M. E. Church, in the northern part of the precinct, took its name from the Centennial year of Methodism in America. The church society was first organized at the residence of Samuel Sinclair, in 1853, with the following families: Joseph Bowers, John Cheatham, John Gill, and Jonathan Gill. Mr. Sinclair was a minister of the



*Frederick Brauer*



gospel himself, and he and his wife, Myra Ann, did more than all others in working up the interest which finally culminated in the present prosperous church organization. They opened their own house for church services, entertaining and feeding all that came. They were a very hospitable family and did much good, not only as christian workers, but as citizens and neighbors; they were ever ready and willing to assist those who were less fortunate than themselves.

Rev. James Garner was among the first ministers of that neighborhood, and held occasional services at the residence of Mr. Sinclair, till the fall of 1857, when the school house was built, where he, in connection with Lewis Mathews, M. Monroe, and Revs. Ayers and Hewitt continued preaching for three years or more. The Circuit was then organized and Rev. J. Mitchell was appointed as the regular pastor. Mr. Mitchell was one of the most successful revivalists that was ever appointed to the charge; he often preached five and six weeks in succession without any assistance, holding meetings every afternoon and evening. Peter Cartwright, the Presiding Elder, called him "Whalebone," a term very appropriate, considering his ambition and endurance. The society built their present church in 1866. It is a beautiful frame building, very conveniently adapted for the purpose for which it was built.

Rev. William Stribling, from Jacksonville, a retired minister, gave five acres of land for the building and support of the church. Mr. Stribling was very generous in the use of his acquired property, giving a greater portion of it to the schools and churches of the country. The building committee was made up of the two Samuel Sinclairs and John Beggs. The first trustees of the church were: John Beggs, Samuel Sinclair, Joseph Bowers, and Levi M. Ream. The present membership of the church is forty.

A Sabbath school of considerable interest has been successfully conducted in connection with the church. It was first organized in Fly Point school-house, with about thirty scholars. At present both church and Sabbath school are very interestedly at work, and the work of both has become a strong, stimulating force in the community.

There were no schools organized in the precinct, till a comparatively late date, for the prairies were not generally settled till about 1858 or '60. The first school-house built in the precinct in 1855, was known as the Begg's school-house. The children in the southern part in an early day, attended a school in Morgan County, located in the grove near Mr. John Cox.)

At the present day school-houses are conveniently located all over the precinct, no scholars being compelled to walk to school more than a mile, or a mile and a half, at most. The educational interests are well guarded, and the general intelligence of the growing youth is ample testimony that the present schools and present school systems are not, and have not been, a failure.

*Ashland Village.*—The name was taken from the home of that great Kentucky statesman, Henry Clay, who was long known as the Sage of Ashland. Many of the earlier settlers coming from Kentucky, it is not strange that they should associate the name of their town with the memory of that noble and eloquent orator, so long the pride of their native State.

In 1857, shortly after the Tonica & Petersburg Railroad, since known as the Alton, was surveyed, a company was organized for the purpose of laying out a town and speculating in the sale of lots. This company consisted of Elmore Crow, James L. Beggs, William G. Spears, Richard Yates (the famous war-governor of Illinois), and others, whose names we were not able to obtain. The trustees of the Jacksonville Female Academy

purchased a half interest, for the purpose of adding the net proceeds of the sale of lots to the general fund of the school.

The land upon which the village is located was originally owned by Elmore Crow, who reserved a proportional interest when he deeded the land to the company. He owned about 600 acres, of which nearly one half was laid out into village lots. The boundary of the village, as originally laid out, was as follows: Commencing at a point one-fourth of one mile due west of the southeast corner of section twenty-nine, township seventeen, range eight, west of the third principal meridian in the County of Cass, State of Ills., running due north one half mile, thence due east one mile, thence due south one mile, thence due west one mile, thence due north one half mile, to the point of starting. Beside the public squares and commons, the lots were divided into 144 blocks.

The laying out of Ashland was not a matter of speculation alone. Those that invested in lots, made the purchase with the view of improving them for either a residence or place of business, and often both. A thriving corn crop was growing on the ground when the lots were staked off. Several who are now residents of the village, remember distinctly when they bound wheat and husked corn on the very ground where the principal business places are built. Mr. Crow's house was the first building erected within the present limits of the town; he being a farmer and owning the land, had improved it to a limited extent. The old building yet stands, and is known as the Douglass boarding house. About forty buildings were on the grounds the first year. A little village or burgh, consisting of perhaps a dozen houses, and known by the name of Rushaway, was moved to Ashland and became a part of the town. The first two public sales of lots amounted to \$102,000. There were also many private

sales, and the business of selling lots for a time was financially a success.

W. R. Hunter was among the first merchants of the village. He built a store on Main street and began a general grocery and dry-goods trade, and continued in business at the above named place some four years, when he entered into partnership with J. M. Jones. They continued business under the firm name of Hunter & Jones, buying grain in connection with their general store trade till 1872, when Mr. Hunter sold out his interest in the store and entered exclusively into the grain trade. Mr. Hunter may be called the oldest business man in the village, he being one of the first to engage and has ever since been identified with the business of the town, being at present largely interested in the grain trade.

William Goble and Alexander Mansfield built a store and began business about the time Mr. Hunter opened his store. They continued business about two years, when they became financially embarrassed, and their stock was sold out under the Sheriff's hammer. The building which they erected, however, is still in existence, being changed to a dwelling, and at present is owned by Mr. O. P. Lewis.

From 1863 to 1866, there was but one general store in the town, viz.: Hunter & Jones. They did an extensive business, and were widely known as straightforward, thorough business men. The first post office was kept in their store, and W. R. Hunter was the regularly appointed postmaster. He was succeeded by W. W. Redman, who has held that position ever since. Mr. Redman was also interested in the drug business previous to the fire. He is a man widely known and universally respected.

Previous to the opening of the present post office, the settlers procured their mail at Lancaster, some three and a half miles distant.

The first hotel of the village is the present brick building now used for that purpose, and owned and run by J. L. Clark. The building was first built by a company consisting of the following persons: Elmore Crow, James L. Beggs, and William Spears.

The first blacksmith shop was put up by Leander Grandy, just north of the present site of the Methodist Church.

Another about the same time was started by Andrew Henderson, who was shortly after bought out by John L. Douglas, and he in turn after continuing the business for one year or thereabouts, sold out to Messrs. Crow and Beggs. This shop stood just west of the present hotel, on the south side of the street. It has long since disappeared and others have taken its place. About the same time the blacksmith business was begun, a wagon shop was opened by William Bready. He followed the business with moderate success for three years. The present wagon shop is doing a prosperous business, and is run by Charles Goodman. In 1872 the present elevator was built by Messrs. Hunter, Duey & Co. It is the only building of the kind in the town. Mr. Hunter, since the completion of the building, bought out the interest of his partners and conducts the business himself. It is a frame structure, conveniently built and modernly improved, costing \$8,000. Mr. Hunter is one of the prominent grain dealers of the village, and handles over 100,000 bushels of grain annually. The other grain firms doing business in the town are, E. Beggs, and Hamilton & Duey.

January 18, 1868, a meeting of the prominent citizens took place for the purpose of arranging an election for the purpose of incorporating the village. The election which shortly afterward followed, resulted in thirty-five ballots in favor, and four against, incorporation, and the following persons were elected as members and officers of the village

board: Stephen Barnes, President; W. R. Hunter, Clerk; J. G. Smith, Police Magistrate; James L. Beggs, A. L. Cerson, and J. G. Smith.

Previous to the building of the O. & M. R. R., in 1871, the growth of the town was not rapid, and the business it did was not of a very pressing character; but on the completion of the new railroad, real estate business, and building took a new start, and Ashland at once took her place as one of the most prosperous business towns of the county, and at its present ratio of progress it will soon rival the county-seat itself.

In 1877 the village met with a serious draw-back and heavy losses by fire. The most central and thriving business portion of the town was totally consumed. The fire originated in a small barber shop some time early in the evening, and was not discovered till midnight, when it was found to be entirely beyond all control; but new and better buildings have taken the place of the old, and the prosperity of the town seems in no way to feel the effects of that devastating flume. There are now many brick buildings ornamenting the business streets, and many more are contemplated; the future business outlook seems very flattering.

The members of the present village board are David Middour, President; Myer Hexter, Treasurer; Samuel Short, Police Magistrate; William Duke, Street Commissioner; John Fansher, Frank Lohman, T. A. Duey, Eli M. Wyatt, John King, and J. G. Pearn, Clerks.

*Schools.*—The founders of the village of Ashland early looked after the culture, character and education of their children. They seemed to heartily indorse the idea of placing them early under the influences which awaken their faculties, inspires them with higher principles, and fits them to bear a manly, useful and honorable part in the world. To take the child in all his ignorance,

weakness, and dependence, exposed to evil influences and temptations on every hand, and lead him through the devious and dangerous paths of childhood and youth, and finally place him upon the battle-field of life, with the proper armor of truth and education, is a duty and a responsibility that no parent should neglect or set aside with indifference for the purpose of economy or the care of business, for no language can express the folly of that economy, which, to leave a fortune to a child, starves his intellect and impoverishes his heart.

The citizens of Ashland, mindful of these weighty responsibilities, organized a school in 1859, in an old grocery building, near where Mr. John Huston now resides. The building had previously been used for a store-house, then a saloon, and finally metamorphosed into a school-room. Mr. George Coffin had the honor of governing and teaching the first school within the village limits. He laid the foundation to the present school system, which, in past years, has reflected so much credit upon the town and surrounding country. The school was continued here till the fall of 1862, when it was moved to the present site, or near where the present brick school building stands. The school was then continued in the old building till 1866, when the present building of two rooms was erected.

The directors that designed and directed the work were W. S. Douglass, Madison Dadisman and J. M. Jones. But the following year tested the strength and durability of the walls; quite a severe storm occurred, and the upper portion of the building was totally destroyed, the walls of the lower story alone remaining. It was not so much in the extraordinary severity of the storm, as it was in the defect of the masonry and architectural structure of the building in general. It was poorly built and its fall was only a matter of time. The community were very fortunate, for there was no school in progress, or otherwise

many scholars might have been seriously injured, if not killed.

The building was at once repaired, and is yet in a state of good preservation. Mr. John Full was the first teacher in the new brick building, and did much credit to himself in the able manner in which he conducted the school.

A new building is now in progress, the cost of which is estimated at \$8,000. The citizens of Ashland do not propose to be behind their neighboring villages in school buildings or in general school work. The contemplated building will probably be the finest and best building in the town, and no pains or cost will be spared to make it one of the best schools of the county. The directors who have the building in charge are William S. Douglass, William M. Jones and Silas Hexter. The present teachers are John Pearn and Carrie Redman.

*Churches.*—Ashland M. E. Church was first organized in 1857, at what was known as the Mitchell school-house, one mile southwest of the present site of the village of Ashland. The members that constituted the first organization are as follows: Asel, Jane, Ann, Mary, Maria J., Mahala, and A. C. Douglass, Samuel and Lavina Short, John L. Douglass, Mary Holaway, Thomas Foxworthy, Andrew Welch, Nancy and G. W. Foxworthy. The first minister that administered to the spiritual wants of the settlers, was Rev. W. J. Newm in, with Rev. G. M. Crays as assistant. Rev. George Rutledge was the first presiding elder. The society held irregular meetings at the above named place for several years. A Sabbath School of some considerable interest was annually organized, and successfully conducted through the year by leading members of the Society. The meetings were usually well attended, and the children were well represented in the Sabbath School. In 1861, the church was re-organized in Ashland, with the following members: James and Sarah



Cresse, Asel, Jane, Ann, Mary, Mahala, and A. C. Douglass, J. Boycourt, Basil Greenwood and wife, Mary Boycourt, Richard Arnold and wife, Mary Campbell, George Coffin and wife, Jane High, John Townsen, Charles and George Zirkle, Israel, Mary and Cecilia Townsen, Jacob, Mabel, and Margaret Shuck, William Bearden, Samantha Bready, Francis Mitchell, Elizabeth Bready Hathaway, Leland and Addie Mitchell, S. E. Beggs, Trifena Greenwood, William W. and Nancy J. Redman, Henry Hollinshead, Eliza, Madison, Silva and William Campbell.

Ashland had been laid out but a few years, and a place of meeting was with some difficulty secured. The first meetings were held in a store or store house, now owned by Austin Lewis. These were the first religious services held in the village of Ashland. In those first devotional Christian meetings, dedicating the embryo village with its business, with its prosperity, and with its prospects to God, has not been entirely without fruit. There are many happy homes, happy wives, and happy children, who owe their pleasant circumstances and surroundings to the social and religious influences of the Methodist Episcopal church. Though there is much wickedness in their midst, the friends of strong drink are numerous; religion and temperance have not the desired control, but those dedicating prayers were heard, and will yet be answered. "Though the mills of God grind slowly, yet they grind exceeding small; though with patience He stands waiting, with exactness grinds He all."

The meetings were continued for a time in the above named place; the building being needed for other purposes, the society continued their regular sabbath services in the rooms of the hotel, and shortly after occupied the Ashland school house, where regular services were continued till the present church was built. During the time the meetings

were held in the store, hotel and school-house, Rev. Jeremiah Mitchell officiated as pastor.

The present church was built in 1870, at a cost of \$4,000. It is a handsome frame structure, built upon the lots given to the society by the village authorities. It is at present the finest church edifice in the precinct. It was dedicated by the Rev. Mr. Buck, who preached a very appropriate and soul-stirring sermon. The building committee was made up of the following members viz.: James L. Beggs, Jesse Newman and J. M. Jones. The present trustees are Samuel Hamilton, Edwin Beggs, Robert G. Hewit, and W. W. Redman. The present membership is 70. The prominent pastors who have labored for the spiritual interests of the society, were E. K. Shields, J. J. Garner, Wingate Newman, G. Garner, and E. B. Randle, the latter being the present pastor.

A Sabbath School of more than ordinary interest has been successfully kept up in connection with the church ever since its first organization. At present about 100 scholars are in attendance, and M. F. Short is the present Superintendent. He is a man well qualified, and has long been identified as one of the most energetic Sunday school workers of the county.

The Church has at times been greatly strengthened, and its membership considerably increased, by the zealous labors of some of its prominent pastors. Perhaps the most prominent revival in the history of the Church was that conducted by the talented E. K. Shields, who in the winter of 1875, converted nearly one hundred persons. The town became thoroughly awakened by his stirring and pathetic appeals; his sermons, though strong, forcible and eloquent, were touching, and reached the heart of many an erring sinner.

The church at present is very prosperous; Rev. Mr. Randle is a young man of considerable ability, and is earnest and untiring in his ministerial labors.

The Ashland Catholic Church was first organized at the residence of Martin Tyes, in February, 1871, by the Rev. Father August Joseph Sauer, and the following members with their families, professing the Catholic faith, were present: Thomas Guley, Edward Leahy, Wm. Kennedy, John Martin, Morris Burus, Cornelius Hurley, and some others whose names the writer was not able to obtain. The society, after being formally organized, as above mentioned, held their next meetings in the Ashland school-house, where they continued their regular Sabbath services for nearly two years, when they purchased two lots of Matthew Jones, and built a small frame-building, in which the society has held its regular meetings till the present time. The capacity of this building was too small to conveniently accommodate the increasing membership of the church, and in 1880 Rev. Father T. M. Hogan was appointed to the charge, for the purpose of investigating the prospects of building a new church. He found the members not only financially able, but enthusiastic, willing, and ready, to enter heartily into the work. Father Hogan is a man of stirring energy as well as talent, and ably fitted for the work that is now so prosperously in progress. His first collection in the winter of 1881 amounted to \$1,800. The fair in January, 1882, under his immediate supervision, netted \$1,314, making a total of \$3,114 as a preparatory fund for beginning the contemplated church. Five lots, located in the western portion of the town, were at once purchased from William Mathers, at a cost of \$300, and the work of building immediately begun. The building was begun May 6, 1882, and it measures ninety-six feet in length and forty feet in width, its spire seventy-five feet in height. It is a frame-structure, and when completed will be one of the finest churches in the county. Its cost is estimated at \$5,500.

The members that constitute the building committee are James Collins and Edward Leahy. Father Hogan, however, personally supervises the work and sees that suitable material is used and proper labor employed.

The Church at present has sixty members as heads of families. The pastors of the Church, from the first organization to the present time, are as follows: J. A. Sauer, Michael Ryan, Father O'Hare, and T. M. Hogan.

The Church has a prosperous outlook for the future, and, no doubt, will in time become one of the strongest and most permanent of the Churches of the country.

*Societies.*—Oak Lodge I. O. O. F., No. 341, was first organized at Prentice, Morgan County, Oct. 9, 1867, and moved to Ashland Oct. 10, 1877. The members that were most energetic in originating the movement of organizing a lodge were the charter members, which are as follows, viz.: John L. Douglass, John M. Berry, John M. Brockman, John W. Daniel, Martin Berry, Sumner Daniel, Samuel Hurt, Benjamin Berry, and John W. Crum.

The first election of officers in the order resulted in the following choice: John M. Berry, N. G., John Crum, V. G., John Brockman, Secy., Albert Short, Treas., John L. Douglass, Warden, and John Daniel, Conductor. The lodge meets every Tuesday evening, and has a membership of twenty-three. The present officers are: David Middour, N. G., T. A. Duey, V. G., Myer Hexter, Secy., John L. Douglass, Warden, Eli J. Salsenstein, Treas., Silas Hexter, Conductor.

The following members have been honored with the office of Noble Grand, viz.: John L. Douglass, Albert Short, John Daniel, Sumner Daniel, Silas Hexter, Myer Hexter, B. C. Elmore, Eli J. Salsenstein, T. A. Duey, William Duke, and a few others, whose names could not be obtained. The lodge, though not large, is progressive, and a large membership is but a matter of time.

## CHAPTER XIV.\*

ARENZVILLE PRECINCT—ITS EARLY HISTORY—THE THREE MILE TERRITORY—EARLY RESIDENCE OF THE SETTLERS—EMIGRANTS FROM GERMANY—SCHOOL-HOUSES AND CHURCHES IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS—THE VILLAGE OF ARENZVILLE—FIRST LOTS SURVEYED—BUSINESS OF THE TOWN—CHURCHES AND SCHOOL-HOUSES IN THE VILLAGES—SOME OF THE PROMINENT MEN OF THE TIME—FRANCIS ARENZ, JOHN L. CIRE, DR. GEORGE ENGELBACH, AND OTHERS—MISCELLANEOUS, ETC., ETC.

IN order to prepare a complete history of the precinct of Arenzville, it will be necessary to refer to some events which preceded its organization.

By an act of the legislature, passed in 1837, it was declared that the County of Cass should be one of the counties of this State, that the county seat should be located at Beardstown on the public square, that the citizens or corporation should raise ten thousand dollars to defray the expenses of erecting public buildings, payable in one, two and three years from the passage of the law aforesaid; that an election for county officers should be held on the first Monday of August, 1837; that Thomas Pogue and Dr. O. M. Long, notaries public in Beardstown, should open and examine the poll books in presence of one or more justices of the peace, etc.

This act contained in it the germs from which afterward bitter contentions arose about the county seat.

Cass County having been formed from the northern part of Morgan, this last mentioned county had retained the south halves of the townships north of the line, dividing townships Sixteen and Seventeen. This caused considerable dissatisfaction among the inhabitants of what was generally called "the

three-mile territory," because the geographical situation of the country and the then existing settlements, were of such nature as to incline the people to prefer to belong to the County of Cass.

Arguments were futile, and it was useless to expect to obtain relief by means of a new election when it was known by everyone that the county of Morgan could outvote Cass ten to one upon any question upon which both might be interested.

Finally John W. Pratt, the member in the legislature from Cass, with the assistance of Francis Arenz, who at that time was one of the six members from Morgan and a resident within this three-mile territory, succeeded in obtaining the passage of an act of the General Assembly on Feb. 26, 1845, allowing the people within said three miles to decide by their votes, at an election to be held on the first Monday of May, 1845, to which county they would prefer to belong. This act further provided that all justices and constables in Morgan, who may reside in this territory, should hold their offices in the county of Cass, and for judges of election at the designated places of voting; the following persons were appointed: David Epler, John A. Arenz and Edward W. Turner, at Arenzville; Jacob Yaples, George Petefish and Peter Con-  
over, at the house of Henry Price; Jonathan

\* By Judge J. A. Arenz.

C. Bergen, William Montgomery and Z. W. Gatton, at Princeton; William Berry, Alfred Dutch and John Miller, at the house of William Berry.

This election resulted in nearly a unanimous vote for Cass County, only a few dissenting votes having been cast.

John A. Arenz and Charles Coffin, having been elected justices of the peace in Morgan County, continued to hold their offices in the new precinct of Arenzville, with the following boundary: commencing on the line between Morgan and Cass Counties, at the southeast corner of section 33, town 17.11, thence running west to the Illinois river, thence along said river to the dividing line between sections 2 and 11, in township 17.13, thence running east on said section line to the northeast corner of section 9, township 17.11, thence south to the place of beginning.

The persons voting at Arenzville, for or against attaching the three-mile territory to Cass County, are as follows: Joseph Thompson, Thomas Thompson, Jacob Lawrence, John Altman, Frederick Lang, G. H. Richards, David Epler, William Taylor, E. Hardy, H. B. Dun, Shad. Dun, Henry Meyer, William Kimball, L. B. Kimbal, Thomas Cook, Peter Light, Julius Philippi, Jacob Heinz, Jno. Orchard, James Jackson, J. L. Cire, Omar Bowyer, David Griffin, James C. Robertson, D. Wagner, Joel Stewart, Christ. Lovekamp, Frederick Brauer, Charles Sandman, W. H. Houston, Peter Arenz, I. P. McLane, Francis Mitchell, J. Creson, George W. McLane, Jep. Weagle, Jacob Epler, James Newman, George McPherson, Richard Mathews, N. Carter, Frederick Lovekamp, Henry Howell, Alexander Ferguson, Henry Wedeking, Jacob Drinkwater, Frederick Kilver, Sq. Houston, H. Lippert, James V. Pierce, Charles Cooper, Jeremiah Cawood, Joseph Houston, Daniel Sumner, Peter Schaaf, Elder Hardy, George A. Treadway, Charles Rob-

ertson, Christ. Rahe, John Marshall, Christ Grave, Victor Krueger, Henry Goedeking, Philip Yaeck, Louis Boy, Isaac Drinkwater, Henry Phelps, Silas Miller, Randal Miller, Thomas Burnet, Samuel Harris, George Hegener, Henry Lovekamp, Frederick Fricke, Daniel D. Comstock, David Sharp, Isaac Houston, Adam Schuman, Frederick Wedeking, William Teilkemeier, Herman Lovekamp, Frederick Hackman, J. L. Comstock, Daniel Dun, Henry Carls, John Carls, Henry Krems, John Houston, William Hackman, William Meyer, Herman Eberwein, J. F. Skinner, George Manuel, Alexander Pitner, Henry Detmer, Joseph M. Webster, George Gunther, John Thompson, George Diehm, Henry Buck, J. C. Carter, John James, Tenna James, Nicholas Houston, Theo. Burchird, Isaac Coy, Henry Menke, Jacob Menke, Frederick Kummel, Charles Merz, John Wies, John Doell, Christ. Crowell, John Masch, M. P. Bowyer, V. G. Smith, J. A. Arenz, Joseph Thompson, Joseph Kircher, G. Hackman.

There were also inhabitants of the Arenzville Precinct, who voted at the house of Henry Price, which was their nearest voting place; among that number were: Oswell Thompson, Christ. Crum, James Crum, who came from Indiana in 1830, and who is the only living person among the first settlers in that neighborhood, and nearly 76 years old. There also voted Thomas Fozzart, John Wood, Charles Jockisch, William Reside, Ernest Fletcher, David Wilson, John Dobson, John Clark, William Nesbit, Anthony Boston, William C. Miller, L. C. Pitner, Thomas Nesbit, David Hamacker, J. H. Melone, Samuel McClure and others.

The residences of the people at an early day were log houses, having generally one or two doors, one little window, or none at all, a big fire-place, and the furniture therein was generally a table or big chest, a bed and a few split-bottom chairs, which so completely

covered the floor, that only a few visitors at a time could get inside the house. The door had on such occasions to be left open, so that one could at least see who his next neighbor was. These cabins were so open and airy, that in winter the snow would blow through the cracks, and in summer swarms of mosquitoes would surround the sleeper, and if the party could not afford the luxury of a bar, he must either have the hide of an elephant or be entirely insensible to pain. To scare off mosquitoes, some people made a big fire of weeds before their cabins in the evening, or in the fire-place, and under cover of the tremendous smoke arising, under coughing and sneezing, the evenings were passed, and thus the nights. Very early rising was the order of the day, for as soon as daylight faintly approached, every one hurried to leave his bed. There was no necessity of calling any one to get up; the flies would relieve the mosquitoes from duty and perform this work effectually. In almost every house, or in the shed part of the cabin, was found a spinning-wheel and loom, to manufacture the yarn and weave the clothing and bedding for family use. The women were exclusively the manufacturers of these useful things, and on days of gatherings, or on Sundays, when people assembled for church purposes, before the service commenced, it was spoken of, how many yards of jeans, linsey-woolsey, socks, etc., had been manufactured by Mrs. So and So. The surplus of these articles not used for family purposes, were brought to the stores for sale, and jeans, socks, knit gloves and mittens, came in such abundance, that the storekeeper could not dispose of the same here, and had to ship them to St. Louis, then the New York of the western country.

Among the early emigrants from Germany, were many who had been accustomed to good society, and had enjoyed the advantages of superior education. Some held diplomas from

colleges and universities. As most Germans, they were lovers of music, and some could play on one or more musical instruments. The pioneer lives in a new country, where hard labor, coupled with innumerable privations, without amusements of any kind, necessarily drew that class together, who could not bring themselves to the belief that the only aim and object in life should henceforth be devoted to hard work only, for which they at best could only get board and clothing. They were generally called the "Latin farmers."

A club, or society circle was formed, and social gatherings were had, sometimes at the house of one member, sometimes at another. Little concerts were gotten up, the instruments being piano, violin, flute, and violoncello. Dancing parties were occasionally arranged, and large hunting parties. A musical band was afterwards organized under the leadership of a Mr. Holtzermann. This social circle continued for many years, until finally, when the number had increased to such proportion that no room was large enough to hold them, and some of the original members had by death, or removal to other parts of the country, made their places vacant, this very pleasant and useful club came to an end.

Whenever an opportunity offered to play some practical joke upon a new comer, it was eagerly seized. One of these, which caused considerable merriment, is herewith narrated: Several new emigrants having arrived, some of the older settlers went with them into the prairie, to select a piece of land for farming purposes. A skunk, or pole-cat, was seen in the grass, and it was given out that these animals were highly prized for their beauty and valuable fur, and it ought to be secured by all means. To shoot it would damage the fur, as it was alleged. One of these new ones was told to approach very cautiously and cover it with his hat, which he adroitly

accomplished; but the animal at that moment squirted its perfume at him, some of which reached his face and bosom. The man ran and jumped about, gesticulating wildly with arms and body, vomiting and hallowing, "Oh Lord! Oh Lord!" He was asked what was the matter, whether he was sick; to which he replied, "Don't you smell that infernal stink, or are your noses lined with cast iron?" Although it was at first pretended that no bad smell was noticeable, the hearty laughter of some of the party brought him to realize that a joke had been practiced upon him. Nothing could induce him to take the skunk, which had then been shot, home with him. He picked up his hat, which was a new one, carrying it at arms length from his body, marching sulkily in the rear of the party, and when Arenzville was reached, the hat was gone too—he had lost it willfully.

The hunting parties also furnished a great many amusing incidents. Game of all description, was found in abundance. The ponds along Indian Creek were, in the spring and fall at times so covered with ducks that no water could be seen.

In the summer of 1844, when the river had been the highest ever known, the deer had to leave the low land and retreat with their young to the sand-ridges, which were also surrounded with water. Mr. William Carter, then living nearest to the Illinois river, caught a great many fawns, which he penned up, and when fully grown, shipped them to St. Louis.

The eastern portion of the Arenzville Precinct is upland and hilly, and from Arenzville to the river, fine bottom land, interspersed occasionally with sand-ridges. Indian Creek is the main water course, into which the Prairie Creek empties. The bottom lands about Arenzville were covered with the finest body of timber that could be found anywhere. Oak, maple, sycamore, hackberry and walnut trees, were of such gigantic growth, that many

furnished three saw logs, from three to four feet in diameter.

After the population had increased, the precinct was divided, and the western part was named Indian Creek Precinct.\*

These precincts contain parts of Town 17.-11, nearly all of Town 17.12, and Town 17.13.

In Town 17.11 are the following schoolhouses:

District No. 1. Schoolhouse, also a church near Monroe.

District No. 2. Schoolhouse, also a German Methodist Church.

District No. 3. Two schoolhouses at Arenzville, also three churches.

District No. 4. One schoolhouse, also a Union church.

District No. 5. Schoolhouse, near Springer's.

District No. 6. Schoolhouse near Mathews.

District No. 7. Schoolhouse near Lovekamp's.

Township 17.12.

District No. 1. Schoolhouse near Teilkemeyer.

District No. 2. Schoolhouse near Wagner.

District No. 3. Schoolhouse near Thomas Wilson.

District No. 4. Schoolhouse near A. Schuman; also a German Methodist and Lutheran church.

Township 17.13.

District No. 1. Schoolhouse.

District No. 5. Schoolhouse near H. Korsmeyer; also German Lutheran church near Korsmeyer, and a Lutheran church near G. H. Jost.

*The Town of Arenzville.*—The first lots were surveyed by J. A. Arenz in 1839, and

\*The precinct of Indian Creek was set off from Arenzville, in 1837, but the history of the two precincts (Arenzville and Indian Creek), are so closely interwoven, that the one can hardly be written without the other, and all the history pertaining to Indian Creek, will be found in this chapter. —Ed.]

he also made a survey of the town, to be called Arenzville, in 1852, which plot was filed and recorded, August 3, 1852. In 1857, the executors of F. Arenz, made an addition to said town, and finally Thomas V. Finney prepared a plot of Arenzville and additions, which was recorded October 20, 1876, in Vol. 31, page 364, and adopted by the town trustees as to the limits of said town, on May 22, 1878, and organizing the town under the State laws. The first organization of the town of Arenzville occurred July 9, 1853, when the first election for town trustees was held. Of the board elected, Francis Arenz was the President; Dr. Julius Philippi, Clerk; Herman Engelbach, Treasurer; John Goebel, Supervisor; Charles Heinz, Town Constable.

A set of ordinances were adopted.

The present officers of the town of Arenzville, are: Willam L. McCarty, President; L. J. Wallich, Clerk; R. J. Cire, Treasurer. Town Trustees: Joseph Amtzen, Christopher French, Daniel F. Fischer, Frederick Bode, and J. W. Swope; W. B. Smith, Supervisor; Henry Schaefer and James Wood, Justices of the Peace in the Arenzville Precinct; and Christopher French and Joseph Richards, Constables.

The funded debt of the town amounts to \$4,000. Saloon license is fixed at \$200, and beer license at \$40 per annum.

There are in the town of Arenzville eighty dwelling houses, with about five hundred inhabitants. The town is in a flourishing condition, and the following mentioned branches of business are carried on there:

Estate of Herman Engelbach—General store of merchandise, lumber yard and flouring mill, with five runs of stones and a capacity of eighty bbls. of flour per day; also an elevator.

Hysinger & Graham—General store of merchandise, clothing, boots and shoes. Sale, last year, about \$30,000.

J. L. Dyer—General store of merchandize.  
Rigler & Shoopman—Grocery store.

L. Adams—Grocery store.

Cire & Cire—Books, stationery and notions.

Swope & Yeck—Drugs and hardware.

William L. McCarty & William F. Arenz—Drugs and hardware.

Mrs. C. H. Dahman—Millinery and ladies' furnishing goods.

Mrs. S. E. Cutler—Millinery and ladies' furnishing goods.

George Weeks—Saloon.

Edward Heinz—Saloon.

Michael Koerner—Brewery and saloon.

Charles Rewitz—Shoe and boot maker.

Henry Schaefer—Shoe and boot maker.

Joseph Richards—Barber.

Charles Rewitz, Jr.—Barber.

W. W. Dickerson—Barber.

Christopher French—Blacksmith and agricultural implements.

John Rogge—Blacksmith and agricultural implements.

William Dreesbach—Tannery.

B. F. Weeks—Tinner.

E. Heinz—Harness maker and saddler.

H. F. Meyer—Wagon maker.

Frederick Nordsick—Wagon maker.

Henry Joeckel—Wagon maker.

G. F. Gerbing—Butcher.

Daniel Fischer—Carpenter and builder.

C. W. Kuechler—Carpenter and builder, and paper hanger and painter.

L. J. Wallich—Furniture and undertaker.

M. B. Shewsbery—Painter.

J. W. Norton—Painter.

H. E. Rahn—Painter.

Frederick Bode—Brick yard.

Joseph Baujan—Brick yard.

Adam Herbert—Mason and bricklayer.

Val. Herbert—Mason and bricklayer.

Joseph Herbert—Mason and bricklayer.

Adam Herbert—Summer garden.

William Kraft—Cooper shop.  
 J. M. Swope—Physician.  
 John Dorpat—Physician.  
 W. B. Rigler—Physician.  
 John Rahn—County assessor and treasurer.  
 E. Heinz—Boarding house.  
 F. Eastman—Dealer in grain.  
 Hagener Bros.—Dealer in grain.  
 A. J. Saylor—Shipper of stock.  
 Theo. Lauener—Shipper of stock.  
 L. J. Wallich—Notary Public.  
 C. H. Condit—Notary Public.

There is also a branch of the Peoples' Bank at Arenzville: C. H. Condit, Cashier, and A. J. Saylor, Vice President.

The public school at Arenzville is visited by about one hundred scholars: T. W. Dyer, Principal, with one assistant. There is also a private school. The first school-house was built in 1839, and the present public school-house was erected in 1866. The old school-house was also used for church purposes for all denominations.

*Churches.*—In Arenzville are now three churches, belonging to the following denominations: The Cumberland Presbyterians, the Lutherans, and Catholics. The Presbyterians have at present no regular minister. The pastor of the German Lutheran is J. Droge-miller, and the Catholics are supplied from Beardstown.

After the new church had been built, in 1860, by the citizens of Arenzville, there was a deficiency of funds to pay the contractor, George Gunther, and the building was used by all denominations, until finally in 1870, the Cumberland Presbyterians became the owners by paying the debt.

The first building used for religious services was erected in 1839. It was open to all denominations on Sundays, but at all other times was devoted to school purposes. In the year 1844, a German Lutheran church was in the Howell neighborhood, and soon after-

ward a German Methodist church, and in 1870 a very handsome new Lutheran church was erected, and the old one used for a school house. R. G. Linker is the pastor of the Lutheran church, and Mr. Barth of the Methodist church. About the year 1875, a Methodist church was built in the neighborhood of L. D. Graham's; also, five or six years ago, two German Lutheran churches were erected in the neighborhood of the farm of G. H. Jost, of which Revs. Bosin and Merschroth are the pastors.

A Union church was lately built near the farm of J. Melone.

*School Houses.*—Among the first school houses outside of Arenzville was one near Pitner's farm, one on the land of George Engelbach, and one in the Skinner neighborhood. There were also schools established for teaching in the winter in several neighborhoods. Some person who was able to read or write was engaged as teacher, and when the season for farm work commenced again, these teachers hired themselves to farmers.

Au Odd Fellows' Lodge was organized in 1874, and the Order of the United Working-men in 1876. Both were organized by L. J. Wallich, who moved to Arenzville in 1869. He is a native of Pennsylvania, and is 54 years old; was also the Superintendent of the Union Sabbath School from 1869 to the present time, and for many years a Justice of the Peace of the precinct, which office he filled worthily and with ability.

Arenzville is a station on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, 11 miles southwest of Beardstown.

At the northern edge of the town of Arenzville was a nice locust grove, wherein generally the political meetings were held. Men, who afterwards became distinguished in the State and national councils, have made speeches in this grove. Among the names are mentioned: Stephen A. Douglas, Jas. A.



McDougal, John J. Hardin, Newton Cloud, John Henry, Richard Yates, Murray McConnell, Thos. M. Kilpatrick.

Morgan County then had two Senators and four members in the House. In 1836 it was customary that the candidates for office of both political parties, at an appointed day and place came together to address the people, speaking alternately, the bank and tariff questions furnishing the main subjects, the speaker's stand being a large box or a table.

At such a meeting, in 1836, Mr. McDougal, who was somewhat of a dandy, always neatly dressed, in his speech anathematized the Whig party, calling the Whigs bankworshippers, monopolists, aristocrats, silk stocking gentry, etc. Mr. Hardin, who was slovenly in dress, and cared nothing whether his shoes had any strings to them or not, and who had taken his seat on a corner of the speaker's table, seized one leg of Mr. McDougal, held it up, pointing out to the crowd the fine prunella shoes and silk stockings which he wore, saying that the silk stocking gentry strutted upon Democratic legs, which raised a tremendous laughter.

The first funeral at Arenzville was that of John Fuschka. He was an old bachelor without any living relatives, had drifted about in the world from place to place, never receiving kind words or treatment, as he told it, until he came to Arenzville, and found employment with Francis Arenz. By industry and frugal habits he had saved his wages and acquired possession of eighty acres of good land near the town. His last will and testament was written by J. A. Arenz, to whom he offered to bequeath one half of his land, and the other half to his brother Francis. It was pointed out to him, that neither of them needed any such gift, and that he would perform a generous act of benevolence, and perpetuate his memory, by bequeathing his farm to the school at Arenzville, to which he cheerfully

assented. Mr. Fuschka was not captivating in appearance, small in size, but he possessed a large soul, full of honesty and trustworthiness. The citizens of Arenzville should honor his grave and remember his generosity. The farm is now cultivated by Casper Becker, and the annual rent goes to the school fund.

John L. Cire came with Henry Kircher, Frederick Diekel, Charles Coupor, Dr. Engelbach, H. Lippert, and others, in the latter part of 1834, having finished his education in the seminary at Fulda. He built the first frame house in Arenzville, where he kept a little store, increasing his business from time to time, as circumstances would permit. He was Postmaster, Justice of the Peace, Town and School officer, for many years. At the time of his death, in 1881, he held the office of County Assessor and Treasurer, to which he had been elected for the second time. He left seven children.

Dr. George Engelbach came here in 1834, and bought the farm of Peter Taylor, where he resided till his death, in 1844. By profession he was a doctor of medicine, but gave up his practice and devoted his energies to farming. Having lost his wife by death, he brought with him to this country his only child, a boy about four years of age, named Herman, and his aunt Link. Although unused to farming, by his iron will and industry he became in time a pretty good farmer.

In 1840, he was elected to the office of County Commissioner of Morgan County, which place he filled with honor to himself, and the approval of the people. He was the only person of the so called "Latin farmers" who held out, all the others having arrived at the knowledge that farming was not profitable or pleasant, in the long run, and had chosen other employments.

At the death of Dr. Engelbach, his son was left under the care of Henry Kircher, as his guardian, and exceedingly well and faithful

was this trust performed. Young Engelbach received a very good education, and when he had become of age, he made a trip to Europe, visiting his relatives there. Upon his return, in 1853, he associated himself with Peter Arenz, and they bought the mill, store, and a tract of land of Francis Arenz, and did a very successful business until 1859, when that firm was dissolved, and H. Engelbach carried on the business thereafter in his own name, until his death, on December 16, 1880, caused by being caught in the machinery of his elevator.

He was a very honorable man, of exceedingly industrious habits, never idle for one moment from morning till night. He left a widow with six children, and a considerable estate.

In the board of town trustees he has filled for several years the offices of President or Clerk.

Francis Arenz was born in Blaukenberg, Province of the Rhein, Prussia, Oct. 31, 1800. While yet very young he engaged in mercantile business, and in 1827 emigrated to the United States, making his home for two years in the State of Kentucky, following the business of merchandising. In the year 1829, he went to Galena, Illinois, and was for a short time engaged in the lead trade, and then came to Beardstown, where he again followed the business of merchandizing and dealing in real estate. He very soon foresaw that Beardstown, on account of its favorable situation and surroundings, was destined to have a prosperous future, and used every means in his power to draw attention to this place and invite emigration. He expected the best mode to accomplish this purpose to be the establishment of a newspaper, and he accordingly, in 1834, commenced the publication of *The Beardstown Chronicle and Illinois Bounty Land Advertiser*, of which he became the editor and proprietor, with John B. Fulks, as publisher. This paper was then the only

newspaper west of Jacksonville and Springfield. It could not be expected that at this early day such an undertaking would prove profitable, and having been published for nearly two years at considerable loss, its publication was abandoned, after having accomplished, however, its object. Beardstown, a very good landing point on the Illinois River, had become the port of entry for all the goods designed for Springfield, Petersburg, Rushville, McComb, and other places, and from here were also shipped the produce and pork of the surrounding towns and country. Heavy loaded teams with merchandise and produce, could daily be seen on the roads leading to and from Beardstown, and there was no point in the West where more hogs were slaughtered than here.

During the Black Hawk war, Beardstown was the general rendezvous for the State troops, and Mr. Arenz furnished supplies for the army at the request of Gov. Reynolds, and also a portion of the arms, which had been purchased by Arenz, and originally destined for the South America service.

New roads were surveyed and opened, and the plan was conceived by Mr. Arenz, that the construction of a canal from Beardstown to the Sangamon River, to a place called Miller's Ferry, and then by slackwater navigation to continue to the neighborhood of Springfield, whereby also the bottom lands of the Sangamon valley would become drained and useful for agricultural purposes, would be of great benefit to Beardstown.

An act of the Legislature was obtained in 1836, for the incorporation of the Beardstown and Sangamon Canal Company, of which company Mr. Arenz was elected President, and Dr. O. M. Long, Secretary and Treasurer; William Pollock, as Engineer, and John A. Arenz, as Assistant Engineer, commenced the survey on September 1, 1836, and in December following a very favorable report was made;

but for want of sufficient means and on account of the hard times soon following, this project failed.

The citizens of Beardstown and the northern portion of Morgan County had become aware that their interest would be better promoted by a separation from Morgan, because every public improvement, and particularly the contemplated railroad, running from Springfield, by Jacksonville to Quincy, which in their opinion, ought to have been located by the way of Beardstown, being the nearest and best route between Springfield and Quincy.

Morgan had at that time six and Sangamon nine members in the Legislature, and the two counties combined, could carry most any measure, and Jacksonville and not Beardstown, would be the recipient of its benefits, for all the members from Morgan were either citizens of Jacksonville or vicinity. For these and other reasons, a division of the county was agitated, and continued until 1837, when the county of Cass was formed. In all these matters Mr. Arenz was the leader and main worker. In the year 1835, he gave up his mercantile business in Beardstown, and took up his residence on his farm, about six miles southeast of Beardstown, which he named "Recluze." Here he had a house built, which had a good sized room in the center, surrounded by shed rooms and a porch. It was covered by shingle roof, weather-boarded and painted, and was built on the brow of a high hill, near the edge of the timber, commanding a very fine view. It was certainly the hottest place in the summer and the coldest in winter, and the house appeared from a distance very much like a good sized tent. Here he resided until 1839, when he made his permanent home at Arenzville.

In 1833 he had purchased of a Mr. Smart, who had a little mill on Indian Creek, that

mill and a large tract of land in Section 31, Township 17, North of Range 11 West, where now Arenzville is situated.

Indian Creek forms here a considerable bend, and to increase the volume of water, a large ditch was cut between said bend, and at the upper end a dam was constructed. A new saw mill was built on said ditch, Mr. John Savage, afterward Sheriff of Cass County, being the builder. It was a difficult matter to keep up the dam, which was constructed of timber and earth, no stone being at hand. The soil being rich and alluvial, the minks, musk-rats and crawfish would in some way undermine or work around the edges of the dam, so that at times of high water it would be damaged or carried away entirely, which required the time of low water for making repairs.

When the timber yielding saw-logs had been consumed, the saw-mill was turned into a flouring mill and rebuilt; but the dam still proved a failure, until finally steam power was applied. These drawbacks would have discouraged most men, but not him, although he had several times either sold or leased the property, but it always came back to his hands, like counterfeit money.

Mr. Arenz was pretty successful in his many enterprises, but in the milling business he proved to be a complete failure, and by it sunk a great deal of money.

In 1838 he engaged also in the mercantile business, and took in partnership his brother, J. A. Arenz, and the name of the firm was F. Arenz & Co. This partnership continued for about six years, when his brother withdrew from the firm. Finally in 1853 he sold the mill and store with a tract of land, to Herman Engelbach and Peter Arenz, in whose hands the concern proved very profitable.

It seemed to be a great relief to Mr. Arenz, when he got rid of his business and obtained more leisure time for other matters. He was

very often absent from home, attending meetings of all sorts, having an object for the improvement of the country. He was very fond of politics and a member of the Whig party. He liked company, was of a very generous and social disposition, and his house was scarcely ever without visitors. There was no session of the legislature, when he failed to go to the capital of the State, to be on hand whenever anything could be accomplished for the benefit of Cass County. He was acquainted with the leading men of the State, and many of them were his warm friends.

In 1852 he was the bearer of dispatches from the Secretary of the United States, to the ambassadors at Berlin and Vienna. He was one of the organizers of the State Agricultural Society at Springfield, on January 5, 1853, and was elected one of its vice-presidents, which position he continued to hold to time of his death.

He also organized, on January 5, 1855, the Cass County Agricultural Society, and was elected president thereof.

Men of the stamp and character of Francis Arenz, gifted with power to look ahead, and shaping matters for paving the way to accomplish praiseworthy results, have to encounter and overcome a great many obstacles; such men necessarily have and gain many friends, but they will also have envious, bitter enemies. This was also the case with him.

Mr. Arenz died April 2, 1856.

The executive committee of the State Agricultural Society, then in session at Springfield, adopted April 3, 1856, the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That in the death of Francis Arenz, late member of this board, it lost a co-worker, kind, courteous and able, and always in his place; the society, one of its most talented, energetic and ardent friends; the State and

community at large, one of its most honorable, respected, and revered citizens; and that while we bow in humble humility and awe before Almighty God, we tender our most sincere and heartfelt sympathies to the family and friends of the deceased, hoping that their loss and our loss is his gain.

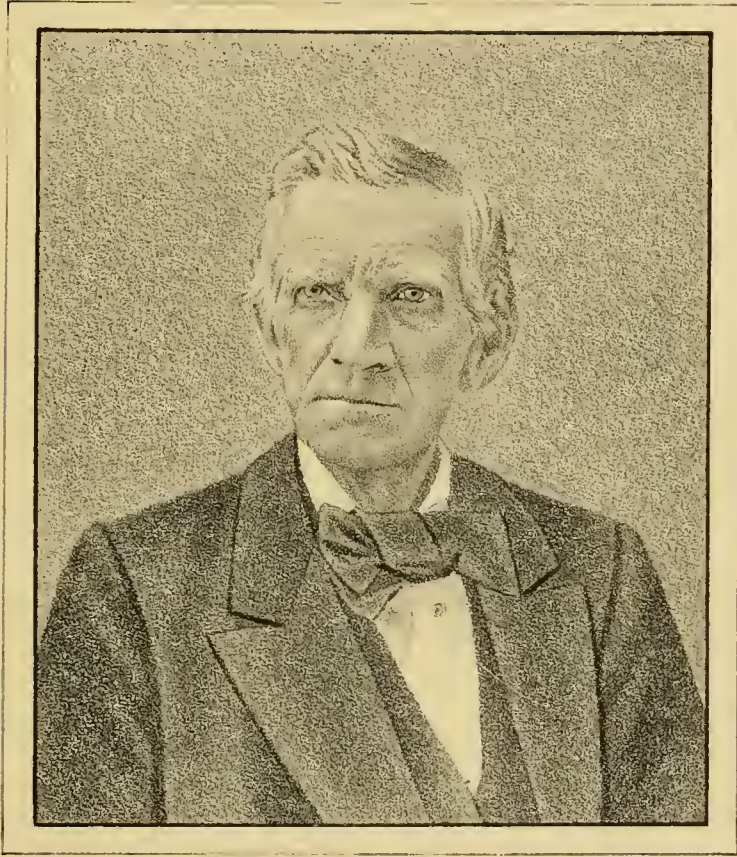
*Resolved*, That a copy of these proceedings be sent to the family and friends of the deceased, to the *Prairie Farmer*, and to the papers in Beardstown, Jacksonville and Springfield, with the request that the same be inserted in the papers indicated.

There are now eight children of Mr. Arenz living, four boys and four daughters, all of whom are married.

Among the men who contributed their share to the development of the town of Arenzville, must be mentioned the firm of Kircher & Goedeking.

Mr. Jos. Kircher came in 1834. He had received a collegiate education, and settled on a farm near Arenzville. When some years afterwards Mr. Henry Goedeking arrived, he took up his residence on the same farm. Mr. Goedeking was a native of Berlin, Prussia, where his father was an officer of the royal mint.

After farming a few years, they arrived at the conclusion that such employment was neither suitable nor profitable for them, and they moved to Arenzville and engaged in mercantile business. About five or six years afterward they took up their permanent residence at Belleville, Ills., where they established a hardware business. Mr. Goedeking became Mayor of Belleville, and died some years ago, never having been married. Mr. Kircher is still living and is the father of five children, honored and loved by all who are acquainted with him.



*James Crum*



## CHAPTER XV.

PRINCETON PRECINCT—GENERAL DESCRIPTION—BOUNDARIES, TOPOGRAPHY AND SURFACE FEATURES—THE EARLY SETTLEMENT—PIONEER HARDSHIPS—FIRST MILL AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS—WALNUT GROVE SCHOOL-HOUSE—PRESENT SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—OLD PRINCETON, AND ITS BUSINESS ENTERPRISE—LITTLE INDIAN VILLAGE.

As we travel along the highways that traverse this beautiful section of Cass County, it is difficult to realize that scarcely half a century ago these luxuriant plains were peopled by a few wandering savages and formed part of a vast, unbroken wild, which gave but little promise of the high state of civilization it has since attained. Instead of the primitive log cabin and diminutive board shanty, we see dotting the land in all directions comfortable and elegant mansions of the latest styles of architecture, graceful, substantial and convenient. We see also the bosom of the country decked with churches of all religious denominations, and well-built school-houses at close intervals. The fields are laden with the choicest cereals, pastures are all alive with numerous herds of the finest breeds of cattle, and other stock of improved quality, while everything bespeaks the thrift and prosperity with which the farmer in this fertile division of the county is blessed.

Princeton Precinct lies on the Southern border of the county, and is one of the smallest divisions, containing scarce fifteen sections or square miles; and a story told of the State of Rhode Island, may be applied to Princeton; that when the people wish to communicate with each other, they do not write letters or send messages, but go out in the yard and call to them. Although small in extent, it is in many respects, one of the best precincts in the county. Virginia and Philadelphia Precinct bound it on the North, Philadelphia lies

on the East, Morgan County is its Southern boundary, and Virginia Precinct, a narrow strip of which extends to the south line of the county, bounds it on the West. It lies in township seventeen, and in ranges nine and ten. Little Indian Creek is its only water course of any note, and flows southwest, through a corner of the precinct. The land lies well, and is all susceptible of cultivation, and when first seen by white people, contained much valuable timber, as well as prairie land. The Peoria, Pekin and Jacksonville Railroad, now a division of the Wabash system, traverses it from north to south almost through the center, with one station, Little Indian, in the precinct, from which much stock and grain are annually shipped.

Among the earliest settlements in Cass County, made by white people, was that, in what now forms Princeton Precinct. From old Kentucky, that famous land of blue grass, fine stock, pretty women and good whisky, came the pioneers of this portion of the county. They were, so far as we could learn, Jesse Allard, Nathan Compton, James Tilford, James Stevenson, Jacob Lorance, Samuel Montgomery, Thomas Gatton, William Conover, Alexander Beard, Isaac Mitchell, John Epler, and others. These families, with one or two exceptions, were, as we said, from Kentucky, and came hither in the usual pioneer style, on horseback, in wagons drawn by oxen, and even on foot. Some had left homes of affluence behind them, others were poor,

and all came for the purpose of bettering their condition, and laying up something for that proverbial rainy day. Mr. Allard came about the year 1826, and settled on the place now owned by Philip Baraecher, of Virginia; Nathan Compton arrived previous to 1828, and was one of the pioneer school teachers. He married a daughter of one of the Bergens, bought a farm, but sold out afterward, and moved to Schuyler County. Tilford located, in 1827, on the place now owned by William Black, in Walnut Grove timber, township seventeen, range nine. He sold out in 1840, and moved away. James Stevenson, with five grown sons, Wesley, James, William, Robert and Augustus, came in 1829, and bought land of Thomas Gatton, who had preceded him several years, and had taken up land in section twenty-six, township seventeen. He was from Maryland, but had resided in Kentucky several years before coming to Illinois. He opened one of the first stores within the present limits of Cass County, and was long a prominent business man. He has a son, Z. W. Gatton, residing in Virginia, who for years has been identified with the town.

Mr. Stevenson was a native of Virginia, but like Mr. Gatton, had emigrated to Kentucky in the pioneer period of the dark and bloody ground, where he was forced to contend with the Indians for his very life. He bought land, as already stated, from Thomas Gatton, upon which he settled and upon which he died in 1851, at the age of 74 years. His son, William Stevenson, now lives on the place and is noticed in another chapter, as one of the most extensive breeders of short horn cattle in this section of the State. Lorange was originally from North Carolina, but like hundreds of other early settlers in Southern Illinois, he had stopped for a time in Kentucky. He located on North Prairie, on section 25, township 17 and range 10, on the

place now owned by Wm. Hemerron, who also lives on it. Mr. Lorange has one son still living in this region. Montgomery was from Adair County, Ky., and came here in 1829, locating on section 30, township 17, on the place where his son now lives. John Epler came here from Clark County, Ind., about the year 1831-32. In another department will be found an extensive sketch of the Epler family, and anything said here would be but a repetition. Mr. Conover settled at Walnut Grove in 1832, on the place now owned and occupied by George Virgin. Beard settled here in 1836, on the farm now owned by his son, George Beard, of Virginia. Isaac Mitchell was from Logan County, Ky., and settled on the place in 1837, where Robert Taylor now lives.

Other pioneer settlers in township 17 and range 10, and many of whom were in what is now Princeton Precinct, were Peter Conover, Jacob Yaples, John Dorsey, a man named Chambers, George Bristow, a widow Cantrel, a widow Richardson, and Thomas Hanby. These were all among the earliest settlers in this region, and some of them will be further mentioned in the history of Philadelphia Precinct. A few years later the "Indian Creek Settlement," as it was called, and a part of which still remains in Morgan County, and in the edges of Virginia and Philadelphia Precincts, was further augmented by the arrival of the following pioneers: Jacob Epler, John Hiler, Charles Beggs, a man named Nancesy, Rev. John Biddlecome, William Kinner, a widow named Pratt, with four stalwart sons, and several more, whose names are forgotten. The first of these pioneers settled in the timber, avoiding the prairie as they would a desert. It was not until all the timber-land had been taken up that emigrants began to venture out on the prairies. Single families tried it at first, then they came in groups of three or four, locating at different places,



until soon the prairie was thickly dotted with pioneer dwellings. Soon school houses were built, churches were organized, mills were erected, and the foundation laid for a prosperous community, where shortly before had been a desert-prairie and wilderness. This remarkable development has been brought about within a comparatively short time, for looking back through the vista of fifty odd years, these broad plains were the grazing places of numerous herds of wild denizens of the forest and prairie, and the camping-ground of savages. Now the rich soil is broken everywhere, woods have fallen, pleasant drives, well-tilled fields, beautiful orchards and delightful homes, checker the view, speaking volumes for the enterprise of the pioneers of this portion of the county.

The people in the early days lived in the most frugal manner—corn bread and wild meat being the principal diet during the first years. The clothing was cheap, and that for both sexes was made at home by the pioneer mothers, who were no more afraid of work than their husbands. In the words of Eugene Hall—

“They worked with the spindle, they toiled at the loom,  
Nor lazily brought up their babies by hand;”

and all members of the household, male and female, men, women and children, were usually employed in some part of the manufacture of this family clothing. It is still a mystery how the people lived and prospered in those early days. The manner of cultivating the crops was so simple, the tools so different and rude, and the distance to market so great, and the prices so incredibly low, that we wonder how any one, even with the strictest economy, could prosper at all. The farmers of to-day, who have reduced agriculture to a science, and cultivate their lands almost entirely by machinery, know little of

what that same work required here fifty or sixty years ago. The farmer now would expect to starve if he had to sell his corn at from six and a-half to twelve and a-half cents per bushel, and wheat for twenty-five cents, and haul it to St. Louis or Chicago, even at those figures. But times have changed, and the world, or the people who inhabit it, have grown both older and wiser.

The emigrant, when he locates in a new country, generally thinks of a mill, as the first improvement. He can do without fine clothes and many other luxuries, but he can not get along very well without bread. The first mill of which we have any reliable account, was built by John Epler, and was of the most unique and primitive style. This mill was run by horse power, but geared in a peculiar manner. Mr. Epler had cut off smoothly, a stump, into which he bored a hole. Upon this he fastened a shaft, which had a wheel at the other end, running upon a circular platform, and from this singular arrangement a shaft extended, which operated the mill. It was a great benefit to the community, and people came from the Sangamon country, camping all night, in order to secure the first turn in the morning. With a good team the buhrs would grind from one to two bushels of corn per hour. This was the way the pioneers had of getting their bread. “In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread,” was a text they could all appreciate. But other mills were built in the neighborhood as the increasing population demanded, and this trouble of procuring meal was forever set at rest.

The first school house in the precinct, and, in fact, in all that region of country, was a log building, about 18x20 feet, of the usual pioneer type, and was built in the fall of 1833. In this old log school house, where the floor

“Was naked earth, with weight-pole roof,  
That seldom proved quite water-proof;

With slabs for seats, with rough split-pegs,  
In two-inch auger-holes, for legs,"

the youth of the neighborhood learned their A B C's. It was constructed mostly of bass wood, and finally was treated to a plank floor, a shingle roof, and was heated by a stove, the first stove ever in this part of the county. It was known far and wide as Walnut Grove schoolhouse, in consequence of standing near a body of walnut timber, on section thirty-one, township seventeen, and range ten. Joel C. Robinson was one of the first teachers in it; he taught there in 1835-36, and afterward went to Kentucky, near Louisville, where he was shot in a difficulty with a pupil. Among those who attended at this old school house, were the children of Samuel Montgomery, John Epler, Isaac Mitchell, Jacob Lorance, James Stevenson, Nathan Compton, Charles Beggs, and others. The house stood and was occupied for school purposes until June, 1844, when it was blown down in a wind storm. Previous to this, however, other school houses had been erected in the precinct, and the loss of this pioneer relic was not, after all, a serious backset to the cause of education.

School houses now dot the country throughout the precinct, and the facilities for receiving a good common school education are excellent. For the usual term each year, good schools are taught by competent teachers, and every means employed to furnish knowledge to the masses.

The first church building erected in the precinct of Princeton, was at the village of Old Princeton, in 1835, and was Missionary Baptists. Afterward a Christian Church was built about 1838, but both of these have past away, and there are now but two churches in the precinct, viz.: Zion Presbyterian, and the Swedish Church at Little Indian.

Zion Presbyterian Church first held its services in Zion brick school house, and in Jacob Lorance's barn, which was sufficiently large

for church service, having a partition with folding doors in it. The church building now standing, is owned jointly by the Methodists and Presbyterians, who use it in common. The Presbyterian Church Society was organized April 25, 1830, by Rev. J. M. Ellis, then living at Jacksonville. The first elders were: Jacob Lorance, Benjamin Workman, and Samuel Montgomery. Rev. W. J. Fraser was the first regular pastor. Among the first regular members were: Jacob and Isabella Lorance, Delilah Richards, Benjamin and Margaret Workman, Mary Tilford, Samuel and Mary Montgomery, James and Harriet Stevenson, Daniel and Susan Stone, Morgan and Sarah Green. The Methodist Society was not organized until some years later.

*Old Princeton.*—The village of Princeton was laid out by Jonathan Berger, February 19, 1833, and was the second town laid out in what is now Cass County. It was located on the east half of the southeast quarter of section 36, township 17, range 10, and was, at the time it was laid out, in Morgan County. Bergen, the proprietor of the town, was one of the early settlers of this section, and a stirring, energetic man.

The first goods sold at Princeton, was by Stephen Mallory, or the firm of Mallory & Lewis, who opened a store about 1826, several years before the town was laid out. Mallory sold out and returned to Kentucky, whence he came, and Lewis carried on the business until 1833-34, and then sold out to Talmage, who shortly after sold to Parrot & Alcott. After continuing the business about three years, Alcott bought out Parrot and took Jacob Bergen in as a partner, about the year 1836. Alcott retired about 1840, and Mr. Bergen continued the business up to 1869. Wm. Kinner opened a stock of goods at Princeton about 1838-39, and Wm. Brown started a store there also about 1840 and took Kinner's stand. Thus Princeton became

quite a thriving little town, and did a large business. Thomas Cowan and Henry Murray were early blacksmiths of the place. Wm. Brown was the first Justice of the Peace in this whole section of country, and was commissioned as such in 1840. The town increased until at one time it had some two hundred inhabitants.

A wool carding machine was started by John Camp, about 1836, and was operated for several years. It had a tread-wheel, and the power was furnished by oxen, placed upon this large wheel. About the year 1841 it was removed to Virginia, where it did good service for a number of years. Clifford Wear, a wagon-maker, plied his trade for a long while; a shoe-shop was also carried on by a man whose name is now forgotten. Zirkle Robinson carried on tailoring, and all other branches of business common in a country town were established. But the time came when it began to decline, and, as steadily as it had grown, it now faded away. The town of Virginia was rising into a place of note; a railroad was built which left Princeton out

in the cold, and it was finally vacated April 31, 1875. Princeton is blotted from the map, and may now rank with the lost cities of the plain;—*Sic transit gloria*, etc.

Little Indian Village, or Station, is located on the Peoria, Pekin & Jacksonville Railroad, about four miles south of Virginia. It stands on the northwest quarter of section 35, township 17, range 10, and is but little else than a shipping station on the railroad. It has never been laid out as a village, and, indeed, makes no pretensions to that dignity. Jacob Epler was the first white man to locate near the place, and afterward James Stevenson settled there. A burying-ground was laid out very early, where the water-tank of the railroad now stands. Human bones were exhumed, when the road was being built, and were buried at Zion Church, about a mile distant.

Little Indian merely comprises a railroad station, a shipping point, one store and a Swedish church. Mr. Stevenson is the agent of the railroad here, and has been ever since its completion and opening to business.

## CHAPTER XVI.

## RICHMOND PRECINCT—PHYSICAL FEATURES—INDIANS—PIONEER TIMES—EARLY SETTLERS—SCHOOLS, CHURCHES AND STORES.

‘It was all a wilderness, a wild waste.’

SUCH are the expressions that everywhere meet the ears of the inquirer seeking information of the early settlement. To the generation of to-day the phrase has become trite and nearly meaningless, but the thoughtful observer can not fail to notice that it is far otherwise to the man who knew the country when it was houseless, roadless and pathless--

“Where nothing dwelt but beasts of prey,  
Or men as fierce and wild as they.”

The present generation knows nothing of trackless forests, unbridged streams, pangs of hunger, days of struggle and nights of fear. We can not get any degree of experience of pioneer life in our day; no adequate idea can possibly be presented; it is lost only as we see some of the effects of those early trials and hardships in the wrinkled brows, scarred hands, and tottering limbs of a few of the old pioneers, who leaning upon their staffs in the helpless infirmities of age, are to be spared but a few short summers at most. We are apt to forget in the whirl and hum of the nineteenth century, with one invention hurrying another out of date, that there ever was any necessity for pioneers. The man who opens up a new country to-day, can not be called a pioneer in the true sense of the word. In seeking a home in the West, the traveler sits in a palace coach instead of an ox cart, and is hurried over streams and rivers, through State after State, with the swiftmess of an eagle's flight; his pockets are crammed with

maps and information of the great railroad corporations, which offer him land on a long time and easy payments. Deciding to buy land, his household goods and a house framed and ready to be put up, are shipped almost to his door (!) at reduced rates, while improved implements and all the advantages of a pioneer experience of a hundred years, unite to make his work effective. In ten years he is in the center of civilization, combining more privileges than the proudest and oldest community of New England knew, when the pioneers of this land were young. What difficulties they encountered, and with untiring fortitude overcame the hardships that so numerous were heaped upon them, it is the purpose of these pages to relate. When they sought the untried country of the West, they launched out like a mariner, on an unknown sea; following a wagon track till that ceased, they passed the frontier and entered an unmapped wilderness, guided only by compass and deed; arriving at their destination without protection or shelter, they built a house of such material as the scrubby timber permitted, unassisted by mill or machinery. Their log house, with mud to make it tight, the rude doors, and for a time, windowless, and chimneys made of a tottering mass of mud and sticks, the remains of which here and there are seen, was their home. The fitful flame of the hickory was their light and fire, the babbling brook furnished them water till the spade penetrated the unsounded depths, securing a purer source of God's sparkling liquid. But all this is of the past.

\*By J. L. Nichols.

About us are gathered the fruits of their toil in a civilization to which the world elsewhere is a stranger, and, looking back along the way over which the pioneers have strolled and toiled, we can say with a full and overflowing heart of gratitude, "Well done, thou good and faithful servants."

The land-marks of pioneer times are fast passing away with those that placed them, and all is change.

Richmond Precinct is bounded on the north by Sangamon river, which in pre-historic times formed a broad surface of bottom land on each side of its present course, and there is but little doubt that the original channel once extended from bluff to bluff, and as the waters gradually settled and were withdrawn, the present bottom lands were gradually formed.

In 1882, the water, owing to the heavy rains of the winter and spring, covered the entire bottoms, leaving scarcely a perceptible spot above the vast ocean of water; in consequence of which a large portion of the bottom land the past year has been without cultivation. These overflows are not uncommon, however, for they occur nearly every year, but not to such a height, bringing so much ruin and destruction to the settlers, as the past year. The water during the year was higher than it was ever known by any of the settlers, but Shick Shack, a chief of the Pottawatomie tribe, pointed out a high water mark to Philip Hash, one of the first settlers, that reached nearly one third of the way up Shick Schack Knob, one of the highest hills of Richmond Precinct; whether he saw this himself or whether it was simply a matter of tradition, can never be ascertained; but this we know, should such a flood as that occur at the present day, every building on the bottoms, and Chandlerville with all her trees, bridges and improvements, would be swept down the Illinois River, and not a trace of human existence left in the course of the torrent.

The surface of the precinct we find is considerably broken after entering what is called the upland; there seems to be nothing but a succession of hills, as though some mighty force had collected those majestic heaps and then promiscuously threw them together, some falling upon each other, and others sparingly strewn over the remaining surface. These hills may be called the Alps of Illinois, with a scenery as beautiful as any elevated upland in the State. Amid these apparent mountains where a half century ago the foot of a white man had scarcely trod, there are now beautiful homes, cultivated fields and grazing herds.

The farmer, long toiling in subduing his fields, improving his buildings, would not exchange his billy home for the sunniest and fairest of Illinois prairie; the hills are no longer obstacles to the owners and tillers, but a source of pleasure and satisfaction. Many of the farmers have become wealthy, some have retired from active labor and removed to some quiet village; others are quietly enjoying life on the scenes of their pioneer struggles.

The timber, where in an early day there was but little, is now quite numerous. Punccheon Grove, about the centre of the precinct, was the principal source of timber from which many of the earlier cabins were built, and is yet one of the best localities for good useful timber.

In the Spring of 1826, Mr. Philip Hash, being of a roving, hunting turn of mind, found himself on the bottom lands of the Sangamon river, as the first white settler. He hastily constructed a temporary cabin, and at once began preparing for a crop. The Indians were then his only neighbors, and it was here that his little son, Zachariah Hash, now one of the oldest and most esteemed citizens of Chandlerville, first made his acquaintance with them, and learned considerable of their language. The following year a man by the

name of Richard Chowning came from the South and located near the cabin of Mr. Hash, on the land now owned by the widow Tantom. He having a large family of boys, began at once the cultivation of tobacco, a crop which he had always cultivated as a business. He sold his crop at Springfield at a handsome price, and after continuing on the bottoms a few years, he moved to parts unknown, none the poorer for his short sojourn on the Sangamon Bottoms.

Robert and Eaton Nance and Peter Dick, with his two sons, Levi and Henry, were added to the little colony about 1829, and others soon followed, among which were John Witley, John Lucus, James Fletcher, Thomas Jones, Joshua Nance and Cary Nance. This made up a happy, lively and prosperous colony. But previous to the coming of the last named settlers, the community were considerably agitated and scared over the floating reports that the Indians were preparing to attack and massacre the settlers; they all left their cabins and took refuge at Clary's Grove, where a few settlers had located, but after remaining three weeks in a military state of defense, they all returned to their deserted firesides and resumed their usual labors. The Indians were of a friendly character, and never molested the settlers except by the annoyance of begging, which they practiced to no small extent. To show their native customs in heaping drudgery upon their wives one incident will suffice. An Indian and his squaw came to the cabin of Philip Hash, when Zachariah was a boy, and begged a bushel of corn; being very cold and wintry, Mr. Hash gave them the corn, and invited them into the cabin to shell it, that it might be less bulky and burdensome to carry. They both sat down upon the floor, before the fire-place, and silently began their work; the Indian, after shelling an ear or so, broke the silence with an "och," and

pointing to the palm of his hand, as though it hurt, said to Mr. Hash: "Hurt Indian; squaw no hurt;" and she without a word, or without even lifting her eyes from her work, completed her task, shouldered the sack of shelled corn, and then followed her master on a dog trot homeward toward the wigwam.

It is said by some of the early settlers, that there was a custom prevailing among the Indians that when they married, the Indian presented his wife with the shank-bone of a deer, and she in turn presented her husband with an ear of corn, the ceremony indicating that he will furnish the meat, and she the corn.

The first crops that the early comers principally raised, were mostly wheat, buck-wheat, sod-corn, cotton and melons; the latter article was very largely raised. In those days people buried them some four feet in the sand, kept them till Christmas, when they had, what was called their melon-breakings," which were among the liveliest entertainments of pioneer times.

Cotton was considerably cultivated till after the big snow in 1831. Previous to that people raised enough for their summer clothing, and plenty for their quilts and bedding in general.

People in an early day did nearly all their teaming and farming with oxen. Many of the settlers were not able to own horses, and those that were, were not able to use them during the greater part of the day in the fly season, as these green-heads were so numerous that a horse could not resist them, but would lie down and roll in the harness, or under the saddle, or do anything to shake off the blood-sucking swarms that would literally cover its body.

Rattlesnakes at this time were very numerous on the bottom lands. Mr. Hash had one field of oats in which he killed over forty of these venomous reptiles. They were so

numerous that he was unable to secure harvest help, and consequently had to do it all himself, and did it without accident or harm, though often binding bundles under which the drowsy rattlers lay coiled.

Till 1832, there was no physician nearer than Beardstown or Petersburg. Dr. Chandler then came and did a humane work among the early comers. He traveled night and day, giving all of his patients the same care and attention; whether rich or poor, with or without money; a noble, generous man was Dr. Charles Chandler.

Many of the first settlers did not remain long, coming in from eastern and southern States and settling in a wild country; poorly clothed and more poorly sheltered, they would be taken with the ague or other fevers, and as soon as they could close out their interest in the land and harvest their crop, they departed wiser, but not richer than they came.

The first mill patronized, was a mill run by horse power, on Roek Creek, a Mr. Bowen owning the mill, and also a cotton gin. In those days there was no bolted flour; every patron bolted their own, or ate it as the chronic dyspeptics of to-day do, bran and all. There was little farm machinery used; sowing, reaping, mowing and threshing, was all done by the muscle of men and sturdy youths, who labored for health as well as wealth. Grain was hauled to Beardstown or to Petersburg; cattle were driven often to St. Louis, a distance then averaging from 130 to 170 miles, as the roads were often impassible in places, and much time and distance taken to go around in search of better and more passable places.

The only road in Richmond Precinct in 1832, except here and there a lone wagon track, was the Bottom Road, leading from Beardstown to Petersburg.

The second road was called the State Road,

leading to Springfield and going through Puncheon Grove.

The settlers of 1832 were Philip Hash, James Hickey, Henry McHenry, John Hamby, John Taylor, Peter Dick, Jesse Armstrong, Wm. P. Morgan, and C. J. Wilson. These pioneers in their war with nature were not entirely without amusement, religious worship or educational training for their children.

Mr. Zachariah Hash tells us that it was not uncommon to see a young man with his girl start out with an ox team and go eight or ten miles to a dance. Cotton pickings, carding and spinning parties, were very common, the girls working all day, and the boys coming in the evening to participate in the dance, and to see that their girls got home safely. They did not then have halls and waxed floors to glide over in whirling the dizzy waltz; it was a puncheon-floor, with such openings that often the broad foot of the pioneer girl would slip through or become entangled, so it became necessary for her partner or lover to show his gallantry by helping her out. For many winters a negro by the name of Robert, from Tennessee, was the noted musician of the Saugamon Bottom. The sweet strains of his violin roused the most indifferent, and brought the heaviest of cow-hide boots quick and strong down upon the heavy timbered floor. Such was the dance of the pioneer.

In 1829 or 1830, the first religious assembly that ever convened in Richmond Precinct, was at the residence of Philip Hash, Reddick Horn, an old pioneer minister, preaching. Revs. Levi Springer and Peter Cartwright also quite frequently visited the settlement on their spiritual missions, but Rev. Reddick Horn was quite a constant visitor of the settlement for many years.

Meetings were held in the cabins of the settlers till Chandlerville churches were organized, when all church-believing and church-going people attended there.

The second church society that was organized in the precinct was at Big Puncheon Grove, and the first settlement around the vicinity of that grove was made about 1830. In 1838 we find the following families in that neighborhood: John Lucas, George Thatcher, Joshua and Robert Nance, John Chesser, Joseph Goble, John Howton, John Bingley, Bartlet Conyers and Elijah Watkins.

The Puncheon Grove Baptist Church, sometimes known as the Iron Side Baptist, was first organized by the religious zeal of Wm. Watkins, Thomas Plasters, Daniel Atterberry, Wm. Armstrong, James Watkins, Elijah Watkins. The society held their first meetings at private houses, till 1842, when they built a church near the site of the present school house. As to the cost, it is difficult to say, for the members of the society contributed miscellaneous money, labor, lumber, timber, etc., till the religious edifice was completed. Cyrus Wright was their first pastor, and continued till his death; since then no regular services have been held.

The church was used for school purposes as soon as completed; elections, law-suits, etc., were held within the sacred sanctum, and consequently, considering the numerous uses to which its doors were open, it did not last very long, and has since been torn down, and its decayed timbers replaced with a house of education.

No Sabbath school was ever conducted in connection with the church, as the Old School Baptists do not believe in that system of teaching and propagating religion.

One peculiarity about the members of this church, was their extreme enthusiasm, but though extreme in their religious views, they were in a secular sense among the best and most honest citizens in the precinct; at present there are but four male members remaining out of their former number of forty.

*Schools.*—The first school of the precinct

was a rude log house built on the Sangamon Bottom, on the Beardstown and Petersburg Road, on the land now owned by the heirs of Joshua Morse; the land was then owned by Henry McHenry, who was most active in planning and carrying out the enterprise.

The first scholars that attended that school are now gray headed old men and women whose shadows are fast lengthening in the path of life, and nearing the eternal sunset. Many already have gone; the rest soon must follow. C. J. Wilson, one of the first scholars, retains in memory the names of but few of his school mates, John Hash, Pollie Dick, Henry Taylor, James and Levi Dick, and the children of Absalom Bowling are all he can mention.

The school was taught by an Englishman who came from the East, by the name of James L. Grant. He was a man of excellent intellectual understanding, a good scholar and good fellow, and taught a good school, but he had one weakness, and that was taking a little too much grog under very frequent circumstances. Drinking spirits in these days was considered a necessary matter of health. Every farmer kept it in the pressing seasons of work, and many of the farmers keeping a little copper still, where they manufactured their own whisky and supplied their neighbors. Then it was a pure article that men drank, now the man that desires his morning dram must pour into his stomach four parts of poisonous compound to one of pure whisky. No wonder we have drunkards. The school continued its progressive work, till the present building known as the Dick school house was erected. Girls in the first schools of the country brought their work and knitting just as much as their books. They were expected to improve their noon and recess in preparing stockings for the family, and doing such other work as could be conveniently carried to the



house of instruction. Such were our pioneer schools.

There are now four district schools annually taught in the precinct. The Dick school house has already been mentioned. The Lynn school, Pontiac school, and Green Ridge school, are the other three.

Shick Shack Knob, known as the summer resort of an Indian chief of the same name, was first entered by James Hickey, and he purchasing other lands adjoining, found it necessary to have it surveyed that his boundary lines might be more definitely located. He being acquainted with a young surveyor in Menard county, by the name of Abraham Lincoln, had him come and survey the land;

Shick Shack Knob consequently can never be forgotten. The land will ever be sacred to the memory of the martyred President.

The business of the precinct is of a very limited character outside of farming and stock raising.

Henry T. and Abner Foster kept store for a time on the land since owned by John P. Dick; at that time the mail was distributed there and the post-office was known as Richmond. Their goods were hauled from Beardstown and Petersburg; they kept a good stock for that early day, and continued a successful business for several years. They closed out in 1837 or 1838 and Richmond ceased to be the centre of pioneer trade.

## CHAPTER XVII.

PHILADELPHIA PRECINCT—DESCRIPTIVE—TOPOGRAPHY AND PHYSICAL FEATURES—ORGANIZATION AS A PRECINCT—THE SETTLEMENT OF THE WHITES—THEIR LIFE ON THE FRONTIER—PIONEER IMPROVEMENTS—CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, ETC.—PHILADELPHIA AND LANCASTER—A LOST CITY, ETC.

FANCY yourself standing upon yonder swell of the ground fifty years ago. It is June, say; your senses are regaled with the beauty of the landscape, the singing of the birds, the fragrance of the air, wafting grateful odors from myriads of flowers of every imaginable variety of size, shape and hue, blushing in the sunbeam and opening their petals to drink in its vivifying rays. While gazing enraptured, you descry in the distance a something moving slowly over the prairies, and through the forest and among the gorgeous flowers. As the object nears you, it proves to be a wagon, a "prairie schooner," drawn by a team of oxen, containing a family and their earthly all. They are moving to the "far West" (now almost the center of civilization), in quest of a home. At length they stop, and, on the margin of a grove rear their lone cabin, amid the chattering of birds, the bounding of deer, the hissing of serpents, and the barking of wolves. For all the natives of these wilds look upon the intruders with a jealous eye, and each in his own way forbids any encroachments upon his fondly-cherished home, and his long and undisputed domain. From the same point of observation, look again in mid-summer, in autumn, and in winter. And lo! fields are enclosed, waving with grain, and ripening for the harvest. Look yet again, after the lapse of fifty years, and what do you see? The waste has become a fruitful field, adorned with ornamental trees, enveloping in beauty commodious and even elegant dwellings. In short, you behold a

land flowing with milk and honey (figuratively speaking), abounding in spacious churches, schools and academies, and other temples of learning; a land of industry, and wealth, checkered with railroads and public thoroughfares. A land teeming with life and annually sending off surplus funds with hundreds, not to say thousands, of its sons to people newer regions beyond. A land whose resources and improvements are so wonderful as to stagger belief, and surpass the power of description. It reads like a magic story, like a tale of enchantment, and yet, it is the true history of our own country—our great West.

Philadelphia Precinct lies east of Virginia, and is one of the most recently created in the county. It was made from a part of Oregon, Lancaster, Virginia and Princeton Precincts, and embraces about twenty-four square miles. Like Virginia and Princeton, it is a fine body of land, lies well, and was originally both prairie and timbered land, the prairie predominating. It is bounded on the north by Virginia and Oregon Precincts; on the east by Ashland (formerly Lancaster); on the south by Morgan County; on the west by Princeton and Virginia Precincts, and lies in township 17, and range 9, west of the third principal meridian. It has but few natural streams, and they are very small. Little Indian and Cox Creeks are all that are laid down on the map. The Springfield division of the Ohio and Mississippi passes through the precinct, and the station affords a shipping point for the surplus products of the surrounding country.

Philadelphia Precinct, as we have said, is but a newly created division of the county. It was organized September 6, 1876, and was formed principally out of what was formerly known as Lancaster Precinct, though a small portion was taken from each, Virginia, Oregon and Princeton Precincts. The remainder of Lancaster was called Ashland, and thus old Lancaster Precinct was blotted out of existence, just as whole States in Europe are often blotted out in some war or revolution. From its ruins have arisen Ashland and Philadelphia, two precincts that will compare favorably with any in Cass County, in fine land, wealth and general prosperity.

The settlement of Philadelphia Precinct is so interwoven with that of Ashland, Virginia and Princeton, of which it was a part, until so recently that little here need be said upon the subject. Indeed, there can be but little said, without repeating what has been said elsewhere, of the settlement of the surrounding community. Many of the early settlers mentioned in Virginia, Oregon and Princeton, were residents of those parts now embraced in this.

Among the early settlers in this section were the Cunninghams, Redmons, and others, who have already been mentioned as settling in Sugar Grove, and the other bodies of timber which were in the present limits of Philadelphia Precinct. James Davis, William Crow and Eli Cox were also early settlers in this region. But, as already stated, the names of the early settlers of this entire region have been given in other chapters of this volume, and it is superfluous to recapitulate them. As the larger portion of the present precinct was prairie, it was not settled so early as the timber portion of the county, save in the few small groves it contained. The early settlers of Cass County, as well as of the entire State of Illinois, were mostly from a timbered country, and believed

that the great prairies would never be fit for anything but pasture. Hence, it was not until the timberland was all occupied, and farms had sometimes changed hands several times, that settlers began to venture out on the prairies. Slowly at first, they occupied the vast plains, and that too, near the timber. But time and experience soon proved the merits of the prairie lands for agricultural purposes, and as this knowledge dawned upon the people, they lost no time in securing prairie land, with as much zeal as they had avoided them. Thus, family after family came into Philadelphia, until the entire precinct was occupied.

The young men and women of the present time have no conception of the mode of life among the early settlers of this country from forty to sixty years ago. In nothing are the habits and manners of the people in any respects similar to those a half century ago. We are at a loss where to begin, so as to give the youth of to-day anything like a just idea of this matter. The clothing, the dwellings, the diet, social customs—in fact, everything, has undergone a total revolution. The houses were all built of logs, the cracks filled with “chinks,” and then daubed over with a mortar made of clay or “prairie dirt.” The floor was the smooth earth or was made of rough “puncheons,” and the spaces between these were often such that the younger children had to exercise great care not to step through these crevices. The roof was made of “boards,” as they were called by the western people, but known among the Yankees as “shakes,” and when put down, were held to their places by weight-poles. The fire-place occupied one end of the cabin, and is described elsewhere in this volume. The articles used in cooking were as few and simple as can be imagined. An oven or skillet, a frying-pan, an iron pot or kettle, with occasionally a coffee-pot, completed the outfit of

the best furnished kitchen. Stoves were entirely unknown, and all the cooking was done in and around the fire-place, a fact that our modern young ladies would not relish, as it would burn and spoil their pretty faces.

Among the clothing of the pioneers, everything was plain, simple, and in conformity with the strictest economy. This was not only true of their dwellings, furniture and provisions, but also of their clothing. The men mostly wore hunting-shirts and pants of buckskin, and caps of coon or fox skin, while both sexes wore moccasins instead of shoes. Many were the expedients devised by the prudent dames in the matter of clothing; for ever since that wonderful triumph of millinery art—the construction of an entire wardrobe from fig-leaves, devised long years ago in the world's early dawn, woman has been very gifted in laying plans, and adopting expedients in the matter of clothing. But, unfortunately for her skill and industry, the country afforded but little more in the line of feminine wearing apparel than did Eden in the days of our first parents. Cotton and flax were produced for some years, but they could not be raised to do much good on account of wolves and bears. Hence the people had no choice between adopting expedients and appearing in a somewhat modified phase of the Highland costume. The tools and agricultural implements were on a par with everything else. The ground was broken with wooden mold-board plows, and the corn cultivated with hoes and "bull-tongue" or shovel plows. The teams were principally oxen, both for plowing and hauling. But these times of self-denial and privation are long since past. Upon the very face of nature the rolling years have written their record, and the wilderness has been transformed into a scene of loveliness. The ox-mill has given place to the steam mill, while improvement in farm machinery has kept

pace with everything else, and our clothing, particularly that of the female portion of us, is—well, wonderful to contemplate.

The people of Philadelphia worshiped in the early churches of Princeton and Virginia Precincts. There is but one church within the limits of the precinct at present, at least so far as we could learn, and that is the Christian Church, at the village of Philadelphia. It originally stood in Princeton Precinct, but the membership dwindled down so small, that the church was finally moved to the village of Philadelphia. There is no regular pastor, we are informed, at present, but a Sunday school is kept up, and occasional preaching by visiting ministers.

The first schools of the precinct, like the first churches, are described in other chapters, and need no repetition here. There are now some four or five school houses in the precinct, good, substantial edifices, in which schools are maintained during the usual terms each year.

The old town of Lancaster, like the precinct which formerly bore that name, has passed away, and nothing now remains to show where once it stood. It was laid out by John Dutch, who had one hundred acres surveyed into lots in the north east quarter of the northwest quarter of section 25, township 17 and range 9 west. It was surveyed and platted by William French, County Surveyor. The entire plat was conveyed to Erastus W. Palmer, May 8, 1837, for \$400. The town was vacated by A. Dutch, June 6, 1843. The Lancaster post-office continued until the abandonment of Philadelphia Plat in 1881.

John Dutch, the original proprietor of Lancaster, was an old sea captain, and like most of that class, was very profane. Some time after laying out his town, he went back to Boston, whence he had come, and begged contributions to build a church, as he said, to Christianize the heathenish western people.

He raised considerable money and came back, and really did build a church, which was used as such for many years, and then moved away and changed into a barn. Mr. Dutch had been very wealthy, but had lost most of his riches. He had saved enough, however, to enter a large body of land in Cass County. He built a fine two-story hotel, where he laid out his town on the Springfield and Beardstown State road. He kept tavern here for a good many years, but his town never grew to very large proportions, and as we have said, was finally vacated, and the very spot whereon it stood, is known to but few of the citizens of the county.

Philadelphia was laid out on the school section (16) of township 17, range 9, and the plat recorded July 11, 1836. Archibald Job qualified as trustee to section 16, July 17, 1846, and the plat of the town was made by

him as trustee. One of the first business houses of the place, was a grocery store kept by a man named Miller McLane. The town, at one time, was quite a business place and had an extensive grain trade. But the building of the railroad through Virginia drew much of the business to that point, and Philadelphia steadily declined from that time.

There is now one store, one wagon shop, one blacksmith shop, and still quite a grain market. There is one church of the Christian denomination, which has already been noticed.

This comprises a brief sketch of Philadelphia, from the time of its organization and settlement, aside from what has been given in other chapters. It may be that there are repetitions, from the causes given in the preceding pages, but, we think, to no great extent.

## CHAPTER XVIII.\*

## MONROE PRECINCT—DESCRIPTION—PHYSICAL FEATURES—SETTLEMENT AND PIONEER TIMES—GROWTH AND IMPROVEMENT—CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, ETC.

HERE in Monroe Precinct the bold immigrant pitched his lonely tent and staked all beside some cool bubbling spring, within the shades of some thriving grove, where his ax for the first time rang out amid the mighty solitude, frightening the denizens from their peaceful slumbers, and starting those reverberations, whose last re-echo has changed into the screech of the iron horse and the hum of a thousand industries, which had their beginning in the rough, rude cabins of those sturdy pioneers, who first penetrated the forests and prairies of the West.

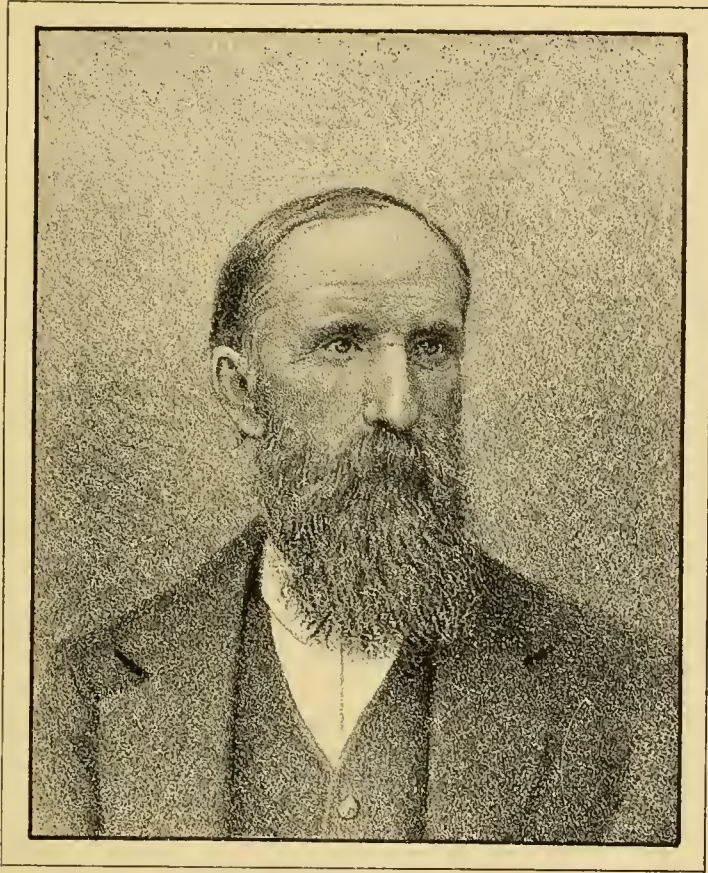
We would ask for no pleasanter task than that which falls upon the chronicler of early history, could we picture and reproduce the scenes of half a century ago, that the reader might see in his imagination the unheven log hut, with its clay filled crevices, its mud or adobe chimney, its rudely proportioned fire-place, its rough, unseemly furniture, and the general surroundings of a pioneer cabin; could we paint the rude shed with its projecting poles, covered with brush, the fore-runner of the fine frame barns of to-day, groaning under the loads of grain and produce, gathered from the fields which our forefathers conquered and subdued; could we show the roads through tangled brush, swampy slough, and unbridged streams, over which the first settlers struggled and drew their loads; could we picture all these scenes in their wild but natural beauty, as they were and existed, we would bring be-

fore many a reader similar scenes, whose impress have been left indelibly upon the mind by the oft repeated stories of the gray-haired sires, recounted with many an animated gesture, as he lived over again those olden times.

The historian, like an insurance agent or an undertaker, has a thankless task to perform, no matter how diligently he may rummage through the dusty memorials of the past, putting forth his greatest powers to encompass everything of any degree of appropriate importance, and to hand down to posterity an accurate and comprehensive record; it falls far short of what a great majority of people anticipated it would be. But there is one satisfaction, the coming generations will become more fair and consistent in taking in the situation, and will more fully appreciate the labors of the historian. It must be taken into consideration, that but few of the first settlers are living; those that are, their memories and recollections are not what they were in the prime of life, and a history at best must consequently be but a partial narration of events.

Monroe Precinct has no village within its present limits; about half of its surface was originally prairie, and the rest brush and timber land. The timber was scattered over the precinct in little groves, which were often of considerable length along the ravines and streams. There is some very beautiful level land in places, along the streams; and around the groves it is considerably broken and often bluffy. Perhaps no better fruit produc-

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*J. H. Teureman*





ing land can be found in the county. The soil seems less sandy than the land in the northern part of the county, and more productive and more easily cultivated, excepting the Sangamon Bottom. Wheat and corn seem to be the staple productions, though there are a goodly number of stock farms, and some very fine blooded stock raised. Farmers are fast learning that the improvement of their stock has become a very profitable investment.

There was a village named Monroe, laid out June 27, 1836, and surveyed by Johnston Shelton, for Morgan County, while this was a part of Morgan. It was on the west half of southwest quarter of section 11, township 17, range 11, and was about four and a half miles from Virginia. The place has long since been abandoned and vacated, and only a church uow marks the site.

There are three creeks, namely: Lost, Clear, and Prairie, that run across the precinct from east to west in almost parallel lines. Along the banks of the two first, some very good timber in an early day was found; along the latter was mostly prairie. Some portions of the year these streams assume the size of rivers, but it is not unusual to see them dry, or nearly so, during the summer months of the year.

The first settlers were seemingly afraid of the prairie, and would not locate unless they could secure a site for a cabin within the sheltering shades of some grove, or strip of timber. The immigrants coming mostly from timbered localities, thought it impossible to settle on the naked prairie. And thus we find the first settlers closely hugging the timber, and every neighborhood was known as such a grove, the name being taken from the first settler that pitched his tent or built his cabin there.

The first man that entered the present limits of Monroe Precinct as a settler is not

definitely known; but as early as 1827, the following families were here: Benjamin Mathus, Thomas and William Clark, George Ruby, James Davis, Alexander Huffman, and Richard Graves; of all of these, Mrs. Elizabeth L. Davis is the only survivor. She is eighty-two years of age, and lives on the old homestead with her son George. It is but a matter of a few years, when she too will enter the sleep of her fathers, and the last of Monroe's pioneers will have passed away. It is sad to follow the old venerable pioneer veterans one by one to the grave, and cover them with the sod which they struggled so many years to conquer and subdue, but "All that lives must die."

"Of all the men

Whom day's departing beam saw blooming there,  
In proud and vigorous health; of all the hearts  
That beat with anxious life at sunset there,  
How few survive, how few are beating now!

Mr. Mathus settled on the land now owned by Elias Davis; William Clark on Edward Davis' present farm. Thomas Clark settled on Clear Creek, on the farm now owned by Henry Pratt. The land Mr. Ruby purchased is still owned by his heirs. The Huffman and Graves estates which they respectively purchased and improved, is also owned by their heirs. Isaiah Huffman, James Graves, George, Turminan, and James Allen Davis, are the prominent descendants of the first settlers now living in the precinct. Mr. James Davis was one of the first settlers of the County, coming in 1821, and settled on Indian Creek, where he lived till 1827, when he moved to Monroe Precinct.

To show the manner of building the earlier cabins of the country, it will be necessary to give but one instance. Mr. James Davis came in the winter of 1827, and built his log house near where he afterward built his present frame building; and after completing it and closing it up, he returned to his family,

and when they moved in March to their previously built cabin, they found three feet of snow on its floor. So open and poorly constructed were the first cabins, that the stars could be counted at night through the roof, and wolves shot through openings in the sides.

Previous to 1832, the settlers had no road to Beardstown; what little trading and selling they did was at Springfield.

There was but little grain raised, however, to be carried to that distant market, as the new immigrants annually coming in consumed nearly all of the first crops that were raised.

The road to Beardstown was traced out by a committee appointed especially for that purpose by the settlers, three of the committee were Joshua Crow, James Davis and Benjamin Mathus, the names of the others, like many events and facts of early settlements have passed into oblivion.

The road was cut through and completed to Beardstown in 1833 or thereabouts. This made a nearer or better market, and also a post-office, and a cheaper place of purchase, thereby not only benefiting the country in the immediate vicinity of Monroe Precinct, but many miles beyond. Previous to this, the settlers had but little mail or heard scarcely any news. About the only communication they had from friends and relations left behind, was by settlers coming in or some one returning, through whom friendly messages were communicated.

In those days it cost money to receive a letter. Our modern postal system had not then been developed; the iron horse, with his heart of fire and flaming breath, did not sweep through the country with the swiftness of an eagle's flight. There were no stoves, no matches; people were compelled to seek their neighbor's house for fire should their own go out. Living now and fifty years ago are decidedly two different things.

In 1832, the following families were

then in the precinct: Benjamin Mathus, James Davis, Alexander Huffman, George Ruby, Thomas and William Clark, Richard Graves, Austin Sims, Benjamin Montgomery, Joshua Crow, and a Mr. Black.

During the deep snow there was much inconvenience and some considerable suffering. John W. Davis was visiting at the residence of Austin Sims when the storm began. During the night his horse broke loose and attempted to return home, but was never seen after; his bones were found the following spring several miles away.

Deer were easily caught that winter, by riding upon them with a horse. Mr. James Davis, who had never killed a deer in his life, decided to try his luck one morning. Seeing one struggling in the snow but a short distance from his house, he took out his horse, easily overtook the timid animal, and in a moment of excitement found himself straddle of the deer, without knife or gun, or anything with which he could make himself master of the situation; but he finally gripped the nose of his prey, and succeeded in so twisting its neck that he broke it and thereby secured his game.

Mrs. Low, on Little Indian Creek, killed two deer with a meat ax. Two bucks, in testing their physical strength, became an easy prey, by locking their horns so tightly together that they could not separate from one another, and Mrs. Low, taking in the situation, and with the courage and bravery of an Indian, marched to the scene and successfully dispatched both animals.

The first settlers had their first milling done at Mr. Quiller Hall's horse-mill, on Little Indian Creek. They patronized that mill till Mr. Streets put up his, some four miles north of the present site of Virginia. Ben. Montgomery run a horse mill on a small scale, on the farm now owned by Rosa Huffman, for several years. It had a grinding capacity

of about twelve bushels per day, yet there was scarcely an hour of the day but what there was a team standing at his door, waiting for a grist. He also run a small copper still for a time, which perhaps added something to the patronage of his mill. It was no mark of disgrace at that day for a man to manufacture or drink whisky. Every farmer kept it; nearly every man drank it. It was thought impossible to harvest a grain crop without it. But times, and men, and whisky have changed, the two first for the better, the latter for the worse.

*Schools.*—The cause of education received the early and timely attention of the pioneers of Monroe Precinct, and to-day the fruit of a hundred fold may be seen in the intelligence and culture of the descendants of those early and honest settlers. Though in the first settlement there were a great many influences that worked against the development of a general system of education, neighborhoods were thinly settled, money scarce, and people generally poor, no school-houses, no public fund, no trained and qualified teachers, no books, and nothing characteristic of the present schools was at the command of the pioneers, yet they organized schools, their children were taught and grew to manhood and to years, wiser and more learned than the venerable sires that gave them existence and watched and rocked their cradles. When we look at the poverty and early condition of the settlers, the untiring industry of both sexes, old and young, we are surprised that they had schools at all. Private residences, vacated cabins, barns, or any place of shelter where fire could be protected from the falling rains or drifting snows, were used for school purposes. These rude temples of learning, in which the pioneer children of the county studied and shivered, were not to be despised, for they were the best that the wealth and circumstances of the country permitted.

The early settlers were not unmindful of the care, education and culture necessary to prepare their children for the trying struggles of life, that they might be a credit to their parents and a benefit to the country. They performed well their duty, and many a rich harvest has been the reward of their labors.

In the year 1829, Mr. James Davis offered a portion of his premises, just south of his residence, for a school-house, to be used also for church purposes, or anything of an educational or moral character.

The neighbors found Mr. Davis very liberal and enthusiastic in his proposition; he offered not only the site for the building, but also money and labor necessary for completing the house and conducting a school. A log house was at once erected by the united labors of the neighborhood, each contributing logs, labor, or money, according to their means, and ere a month had elapsed the building was complete and ready for the service for which it was built.

Mr. Jesse Pierce had the honor of being the first teacher of Monroe Precinct, and taught a good and satisfactory school. Among his scholars were the following: Isaiah and Sylvester Huffman, David, Thomas and Patience Clark, Julia Ann, John, Thomas and James A. Davis, Emily Spencer, George Savage, Mary, Logan and Samuel Wilson, Mary, James and Nelson Graves, and Jake Shoopman.

The second teacher that was given authority in this log temple of learning, was a Mr. Chapman. He was shortly after succeeded by John Galesp, who perhaps was among the most successful teachers of the precinct. He taught several years, and it was during his time of service that the building caught fire and was consumed. The chimney became defective, being made of sticks and mud, which was very characteristic of the early style of chimneys, and caught fire and made

such rapid progress that it could not be overcome.

The settlers were not discouraged, but immediately put up a new building within two hundred yards of the first, also on Mr. Davis' land. This was also built of logs, with puncheon floor, slab seats without backs or support, but it had one decided advantage over the old building, that in that day was considered a very great improvement. Instead of greased paper for windows, it was supplied with regular sash and glass window-lights. Besides the regular building, a shed at one end was attached, in which school was kept during the summer months of the year. School was kept in this building some ten years or more, when a building was put up at Monroe, with but very little improvement on the old, except the logs were hewn a little smoother, and a little better fitted together, the seats or benches being about the same. School was successively taught here, from 1843 to 1854, when the present building was erected, and where school has successfully been taught ever since.

Mr. Alexander Hoffman, about the year 1842, taught a private school at his own house, which was considered a great benefit to the community. A school-house about this time was built on the land of Richard Graves, but after the second term it took fire and was consumed.

*Clear Creek Church.*—One of the first things which our Pilgrim Fathers did, after crossing the storm-swept ocean, was to assemble upon the frozen, barren rocks of Plymouth, in the great temple, whose majestic dome was the over-arching skies, and offer prayers of thanksgiving for their safe voyage and successful landing. So it was with the first settlers of Cass County. Whenever a few families were sufficiently near to each other to be called a neighborhood, we find them often assembled, either in the open air,

or within the narrow confines of some pioneer cabin, blending their hymns with the moan of the autumn winds, and returning thanks amid the screams of the panther and the howling of wolves. In all the trials, privations, and sufferings that attended the first subduing of the forests, or the taming of the prairies, the settlers forgot not that God was the great source of blessing, and would not forsake them in their hour of need.

Clear Creek church was first begun at the residence of Mr. John Ray, about the year 1832. He being a minister of the gospel, invited in a few families, and under his own roof first began the work of organizing a church. The members that first added their names to the roll of membership were, himself and wife, Joshua Crow and wife, James Davis and wife, John Mathews, Benjamin Mathews and wife, William Shoopman and wife, and Nancy Hill.

Meetings were continued at the cabin of Rev. Mr. Ray, for two years or more, when he removed to Texas, and left the settlers without a minister, and a regular place of meeting.

Rev. Cyrus Wright came among the settlers about that time and offered his services to the community, which were gladly and thankfully received. Meetings were then held at the cabin of Mr. Shoopman, who resided on Clear Creek, and the church from that took its present name. After continuing the meetings for some time at the residence of Mr. Shoopman, the society decided to hold their meetings at the cabin of Mr. James Davis, where services were continued for fourteen years, Rev. Cyrus Wright being the officiating minister. During this time the following members were added to the society: D. Hardy and wife, Elijah Davis and wife, Julia Ann Davis, Millie Hoffman, Nancy Ruby Mr. Harding, Betsy, Bridgewater, Thomas Cowen, Mrs. Morgan, Lucy Bridgewater,

Peter Hudson and wife, John Howell and wife, Joshua Howell and wife, James Blan and wife and two daughters, Mr. Richards and wife, Rachel Epler, Nancy Hill, Ira Crow and wife, Amanda Thornsberry, Thomas Buck and wife, Miles White and wife, and Mr. Ephraim White. At the present day but few of the above members are living.

In 1852, they built their present church, at a cost of \$500, besides the time and labor contributed by the individual members.

The building committee was made up of the following persons: Alexander Hoffman, James Davis, and William Shoopman. The above committee were also elected the first trustees of the church, to which a deed of the

land was given by John Schaffer, free of all cost.

No regular services at present are held. William Dyre occasionally preaches to the few members that are left. The church at one time had a large membership, and was among the most prosperous of the county.

The society saw its brightest days of prosperity when the church was first built, and Rev. Mr. Wright was pastor. After his death, Rev. Mason Beadle took the charge as pastor, and at the close of his ministerial services, many of the members moved away, others died, and now there are but fifteen members remaining of that once prosperous body.

## CHAPTER XIX.\*

## OREGON PRECINCT—DESCRIPTION AND SETTLEMENT—PIONEER LIFE—INDIANS—CHURCHES, SCHOOLS,

“Once o’er all this famous land  
Savage wilds and darkness spread,  
Sheltered now by thy kind hand,  
Cheerful dwellings rear their head.  
Where once frowned the tangled wood,  
Fertile fields and meadows smile,  
Where the stake of torture stood,  
Rises now thy churches’ pile.”

THE world is now taking time to look back and the story of the pioneer is becoming one of absorbing interest. Illinois was for a long time considered “out West,” and its people, scarcely yet out of the prairie wastes, took little interest in those traditions relating to a condition of society but little removed from their own. But the onward rush of the quick march of civilization, has pressed back the western frontier, making the once north-western territory the central link in the brilliant chain of states. This awakening to the true value of the pioneer history of this country comes in many respects too late. The children of the pioneer settlements have been fast gathered to the rest of their fathers within the past decade, and the old landmarks, one by one, have decayed and passed away with those that placed them.

The men who first burst into the native sod that hugged the hills and valleys of Oregon Precinct; the men whose axes rang first along its winding groves, where the foot-prints of the red man were imprinted in the sands; the men whose bullets first pierced the bounding deer that played and hid among its countless hills, have long since passed away; their lips

are hushed in sleep that never can impart the hunger, and hardships, and trials of their pioneer struggles. “The half can never be told.” It must rest in secret and in silence in the pulseless bosoms that know no wakening.

“Great God of love, we dedicate these hills and vales to Thee,  
To hold Thy dead of every name, God’s Acres let them be.  
And may the souls whose bodies lie within this beautiful calm  
Be resting in the bosom of The Heavenly Paschal Lamb.”

We honor those pioneer veterans for their self-sacrificing devotion in opening up for us such a country of richness, of happy homes and of glowing prospects for the future.

The path which men pursue in life, the dark waves they struggle to repel, the rough waters they endeavor to traverse, and their temporal happiness, depends almost wholly upon surrounding circumstances. See the life and pursuits which the pioneer has chosen; he knew there was but hardship, privation and long suffering in store for him; the vigorous years of his manhood must be given, and the strong muscular frame must be weakened with age to secure a brief respite from toil in the autumn of his declining years. Such was the character and make-up of the first settlers of Oregon Precinct, and the success of their labors, and the realization of their most sanguine expectations, no one will question; the churches, school houses and beautiful homes that everywhere meet the eye, are the monuments of their pioneer industry.

\*By J. L. Nichols.

Oregon Precinct, like Richmond, is rather too undulating for convenient travel over its roads. There seems to be nothing but hills, over one only to be at the foot of another, and so on throughout the precinct; yet as broken and bluff-like as the country seems to a passing traveler, it contains some of the best and most productive farm lands in the county.

The land that is too broken for cultivation, makes admirable pastures for sheep and cattle, and the farmers with their improved and imported stock, find abundant wealth in the Oregon hills.

There are three streams that form the principal drainage of the precinct. Coxe's Creek, running through the Western part, is quite heavily timbered; some portions of this timber, in the past has been of more than an ordinary growth, but the best part has been cut down, and a dense, thrifty growth of young trees has taken rapid possession of the ground. Panther Creek rising in the centre of the precinct, is rather a small stream whose banks in many places are very high and bluffy; there is also some timber scattered along its banks, and quite a grove where it takes its rise and from which it derives its name. Middle Creek flows through the Northeastern corner, and contains very little water, and has but very little timber growing along its banks till it reaches Richmond Precinct, where it is quite heavily timbered. These streams are comparatively small, and only in places contain water the year round; they invariably cease running about the first of June, and in very dry seasons scarcely any water can be found in the entire length of their channels. While in the dry portions of the summer they can scarcely be termed creeks of the smallest character, in Spring, after the heavy rains, they become raging, roaring rivers, sweeping through the hills with such velocity and force that bridges,

fences, trees, and everything of a movable character that comes within their reach, is swept away and rushed down stream.

Timber is more or less scattered throughout the precinct. It is mostly of a young growth that has started since the prairie fires ceased to rage and sweep over the country. The best and most timber is found in the southeast portion of the precinct, and in the western part along the banks of Coxe's Creek.

The first settlement in Oregon Precinct was on Middle Creek. Mr. McDonald and Mr. Redman were the first to penetrate the pathless wilds and seek homes among the Indians and wild beasts that roamed over the hills and woods of the country. They built their cabins near the present site of Newmansville, in 1824, and lived there in the solitude and silence, with Salem their nearest post-office, and Eli Cox, who had settled at Coxe's Grove in 1820, their nearest neighbor, till 1828, when Bartlet Conyers and Henry Hopkins were added to the little settlement.

Beardstown or Salem were the only places where farm produce or grain could be sold, and groceries and household necessities purchased. At this time, however, there was but one store at Salem, kept by Messrs. Hill & McNamer. In reaching either of the above named places, the early settlers found much difficulty; the country was rough, the streams unbridged, and the only way farmers could travel was for several to go together and double up their yokes of cattle in the bad and difficult places of the road, and help each other through. And after getting their grain to market through these trying circumstances they could realize but 10 cents per bushel for their corn and 40 or 50 cents for their wheat, the corn being shelled and the wheat threshed by hand.

Bangs, frizzes, paint and lily hands were unknown among the rustic maidens of pioneer times. They spun and wove their own cloth-

ing; went into the field with their brothers and fathers; mowed, reaped, bound, raked, and cut wood, were strong, rugged, and perfect pictures of health. But very little luxury was enjoyed on the part of the pioneer in these days; during the big snow of 1830 and '31, many families lived exclusively for months on corn bread and parched corn, the meal being prepared in a mortar, as there were no mills that could be reached.

In 1844 we find in the other portion of the precinct the following settlers: Mr. and Mrs. Cress; G. Wood, on Sec. 34; Elijah Carver; James Garner, Sec. 3; Geo. Beggs, Sec. 34; John Sherrer, Sec. 3. In 1846 the cabin of Joseph Allison was put up with no other neighbor but Amos Garner, who lived then on the farm now owned by his brother William. Much of the land in Oregon was sold for 50 and even 25 cents per acre, and there was government land as late as 1854; the farm now owned by R. P. Bell was sold that year, among one of the last pieces, at the low government price of 25 cents per acre.

Game, as in other parts of the county, was very plenty. It seems buffalo and elk once had their habitation here, as many of their bones and horns were seen by the early settlers, strewn over the prairies and through the forests. Wolves were very numerous, though seldom doing violence to human beings; yet no one cared to risk himself at night among them without some sort of protection. There is but one instance in the county where a man was attacked by them, and that was Daniel Troy of Bethel, who returning late with a quarter of beef, was forced to give it up and to beat a hasty retreat to protect himself.

Thomas Boycourt was one of the most distinguished hunters in the precinct while residing on Section 34. His eagle eye allowed no deer or wild turkey to escape when once his trusty rifle was leveled upon it.

The early amusement of the young people

was principally dancing. An old settler tells us, notwithstanding the dancers had a rough puncheon floor and no better beverage to enliven their spirits than home-made whisky, sweetened with maple sugar, yet it is doubtful if the anniversary of American Independence was ever celebrated in the State by more joyful and harmonious gatherings than these who danced the scamper down, double-shuffle, Western swing and half-moon, in the frontier-cabins of our early settlers, here in the county.

Newmansville was laid out in 1858, by Mr. W. Newman, who built a blacksmith shop and rented it to Thomas Joyce; he afterwards sold it to Alexander Robinson, who has been in active business ever since. A wagon shop is also connected with the blacksmith shop, where considerable repairing is done in that line.

Thomas P. Way built the first and present store building, and did a good business for three years, when he sold out to Pileher and Murphy, who continued the business for seven or eight years, when they sold out and moved to Chandlerville. The store then changed hands very frequently for several years, or till 1881, when the present occupant, J. S. Struble, purchased the stock, and has since been doing a fair business for an inland country trade. There are six residences in the village.

The post office is generally kept by the party in business. The office was first known as Higley, and since changed to Newmansville.

The first doctors in Newmansville were Kilburn Hathwell and James Galloway. As the country began to settle, Dr. Logan came in 1857, and has continued in active practice till within a few years; his health failing him, he was compelled to give up the greater portion of his ride. A young physician, Charles Matthew, has been practicing for the past four years with very good results.



The M. E. Church, known as the Oregon Chapel, was first organized in 1848, by the following persons, holding class and prayer meetings at the residence of John S. Boycourt, Joseph Allison, R. Robinson, Amos R. Garner, John and Joseph Allison, Jr., James Wyatt, and James R. Garner. These men were the first movers in the Christian cause which has developed into the strength and prosperity of the present church. The Society for a time held its meetings at the residences of the different members. In 1855 the Oregon school-house was built, and after that the Society held their meetings there, Brother I. Groves being the first minister, who preached two years. The Society continued to hold their regular Sabbath services at the school-house for fifteen years. During this time the church was aroused, and the community, awakened by some soul-stirring revivals, Brother Geo. Wolfe in one winter drew about thirty converts to the church by his zealous preaching. Brother Warfield several years after brought the community to a sense of Christian duty by pointing out the wickedness and careless neglect of the world. Many were brought to Christ and drawn into the safe confines of the church. Many other revivals, says Brother Allison, have been held, though not so enthusiastic and full of interest, yet great good has been done.

In 1869 or 1870 Joseph Allison gave to the society a lot for a church, upon which the present edifice was built at an expense of \$1,500. The building committee were J. M. Wyatt, H. Monroe, Wm. Watkins, and Wm. Garner. The first trustees were: John M. Wyatt, Charles Deadorf, Samuel Hitchey, Wm. Garner, Hooker Monroe. Rev. P. Lyons was the first pastor after the church was completed. The present pastor is Rev. George Fower. Present Trustees, Joseph Allison, Wm. Garner, M. Arthurbury, Wm. Watkins and Mary Wyatt.

A Sunday school has always been kept up in connection with the church. The first superintendent was John S. Boycourt; he began with twenty-five scholars, and now the school has more than double the original number. W. S. Garner, John M. Wyatt and Samuel Hinchey, have had charge of the Sabbath school as superintendents most of the time since the time of J. S. Boycourt.

The church has never been without a regular pastor since it was built. The members are earnest in the work, and can boast of sixty-seven active members.

Newmansville M. E. Church society was first organized at the residence of Bartlet Conyers, a resident of Menard County, living just across the line. In the spring of 1829, Rev. David Carter preached at his cabin, which was the first meeting and preaching in that community; the following families were present: David Williams and wife, Joseph Regsdell and wife, and Mr. Conyers and wife. That constituted the nucleus around which the early religious interest clustered. Rev. Mr. Carter resided in the county and visited the neighborhood often on his pious mission. The first circuit ministers were Revs. McKane and Benson.

In 1840, the Church Society united with the community in general, built a school house with the understanding that it should be used for church purposes as well as school. In 1855, the society built their present church, where they have held regular Sabbath services ever since.

Peter Cartwright was the first presiding elder. The church is progressive, and has a membership of sixty, with a flourishing Sabbath school of nearly the same number.

The school house known as the Quebec school, was built about the year 1840, by Messrs. Mathews, Garner, Carver and Wood. Previous to the building of this school house, the children of the community were much

neglected, as they were compelled to walk from three to five miles, a distance that would exhaust both mind and body, and a pupil could do but little in applying the mind after such a distance had been traveled. Some of the first scholars were William, Martha and David Crews, Nancy Carver, Charles Carver, Henry, Jerry, and Katie Sherrer. Wm. Pallett and Miss D. Major, were among the first teachers. The school has been in active operation ever since, employing the best teachers, and a high grade of studies are usually taught.

The Oregon school house was built in 1855. This was a good work, from which much educational fruit has been realized. The first teacher was Jefferson Boycourt, and some of the first scholars were Ellen and James Robinson, Amos Wilson, Martha Wyatt, Mary Boycourt. This school is among the most progressive of the precinct

Let knowledge grow from more to more,  
But more of reverence in us dwell,  
That mind and soul, according well,  
May make one music as before,  
But vaster.

TENNYSON.

## CHAPTER XX.\*

## HICKORY PRECINCT—PHYSICAL FEATURES—FIRST SETTLEMENT AND SUBSEQUENT GROWTH—PROGRESS OF INDUSTRIES AND IMPROVEMENTS—CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.

THIS precinct in almost every respect is superior to any other in the county. Its fertile soil, valuable timber, winding streams and beautiful lakes, cannot fail to be appreciated by the most indifferent or sluggish mind. Its garden-landscape, spreading out from the river till its undulating folds lap over the feet of the hills, which stand like martial sentinels guarding the plumed fields that diversify the bosom of that extended scope, is a scene of which the eye can never tire. Sangamon river, that deep, swift stream, winding along its northern border; Clear Lake and various gorges or chasms which are cut deeply into the soil, disclosing perpendicular embankments, furnish abundant material upon which the hand of art in future years may labor. Each lake, each stream, each hill and vale, will be in time associated with some event around which the fairy fingers of hallowed recollections will entwine the sweet flowers of other years. Even at this early day local names spring up from surrounding events, names that will live when those persons associated with them, have long since passed into oblivion. Other names will come, as time sweeps onward, and for the pleasure and satisfaction of those who live in the future, these, and the circumstances which gave them birth, must be carefully recorded.

“The sweet remembrance of the just,  
Like a green root revives and bears  
A train of blessings for his heirs  
When dying nature sleeps in dust.”

A greater portion of Hickory Precinct is made up of bottom land, the Sangamon River forming its northern boundary, and from which on each side a broad strip of deep, rich and sandy soil extends. This is the best and most productive farm land in the county; all kinds of grain and all manner of fruit that the climate of Illinois will permit to grow, flourish here in rich and luxuriant abundance; extreme seasons, whether wet or dry, do not seem to affect the yield of grain or the abundance of fruit; it is land that never fails, or, at least, never has failed, to produce a grain crop since the first settler touched his plow to its virgin soil. “It is a land that flows with milk and honey.”

The early settlers feared these bottoms; many, looking for land and homes, passed by and settled on farms that by years of culture, and with thousands of dollars worth of improvements, to-day is not worth one-half as much per acre as the bottom land without fences and unimproved, which they could have purchased for less money. They feared the ague floods, and fevers, and would not expose themselves and families to such supposed dangers. The land which they could have purchased for \$1.25 per acre, now sells readily for \$100 per acre.

The upland, of which the Southern portion of the precinct is composed, is very hilly and broken. It is largely used for pasture lands, as there is comparatively but little that can be conveniently cultivated. There is considerable timber over this broken territory,

\*By J. L. Nichols.

It formerly was found only along the streams and ravines that wind around among the hills, but of later years it has been gradually creeping up the sides of those miniature mountains, until their bald heads have become completely covered with a young and rapid growth of timber. There is also some good timber found in the northwestern corner of the precinct, on the banks of the Sangamon.

Many small ravines have furrowed broad and deep channels through the soil in their course to the river. There are no streams, however, that continue to flow the year round except in very extraordinary wet seasons.

Job's Creek, passing through the Northeastern corner of the precinct, is, in some seasons of the year, a very extraordinary stream. It empties into a small chain of lakes which in places are never less than several fathoms in depth. In high water this miniature river almost becomes a Niagara, roaring, rushing and sweeping everything before it.

The first settlers that dare risk life and health on the sickly bottoms of the Sangamon, of which there was so much dread, were John Baker, Amos Hager, John Carr with his sons Elish, Peter, William, Benjamin, Jeremiah and David, and John Wagner, a son-in-law of Mr. Carr's; of these, John Baker was the first, and probably came as early as 1823. Mr. Hager and Mr. Carr and family came sometime during the year of 1824. Mr. Baker settled on the land now owned by Thomas Knapp, and Mr. Carr and family on the site of what is now called the Brick Corners. S. Richardson, Solomon Penny and I. Revis came about 1827, Mr. Richardson occupying the land now known as the Frederick Bower farm, and Mr. Penny settling on the land now owned by Richard Tink. Of all of these there is but one living, Mr. James Carr, who resides in Fulton County. There are

but two grandsons of John Carr remaining in the precinct, David and Dallas Carr. These are the sons of David Carr, Sen., who married Miss Julia A. Wells, who is still living, as almost the only representative of the early settlers of Hickory Precinct. She at present resides in Chandlerville, and to her we are indebted for much of the early history that is connected with the first settlement of the precinct.

In 1828 and 1829 the following families were added to the scattering community: Daniel Wells, Robert Ivers, Widow Stuart and Benjamin Horrom. Mr. Wells came with nine sons and one daughter, and settled three miles West of Hickory.

The first settlers were compelled to go to Jacksonville for their mail, groceries, etc., till Thomas Pogue and Augustus Knapp started a small store at Beardstown. When Mr. Daniel Wells came to Beardstown, in 1828, Thomas Beard was keeping a hotel in a small log cabin. Mr. Wells came up the Illinois river in the steamer known as the Dewitt Clinton the first trip she ever made. The settlers that were on the bottoms during the deep snow were John Baker, Amos Hager, I. Revis, Solomon Penny, S. Richardson, Daniel Wells, John Carr, John Wagner, Jeremiah Bowen, William Scott, Michael Pearson and a Mr. Anderson.

During the autumn of 1830, previous to the big snow, wild fruit was very abundant; plums, berries, and grapes have never seemed so plenty since. Wild bees were numerous and honey very plenty; bees seemed to flourish in a wild state better than they have later years. The bottoms were then, during the summer months, but a vast and unbroken ocean of beautiful flowers, whose sweetness were ample to the wants of the buzzing millions which fed upon them.

There was much suffering during the winter of the big snow; it was impossible to

reach mills, towns, or any place where provisions and clothing could be procured. Many families had no greater luxuries for months than cracked and boiled corn, with now and then a little venison. Deer during that winter became very poor, and so reduced by hunger that they entered the yards of the settlers in search of hay and scattering husks. At this time there was no nearer mill than Salem; people found it very difficult and tedious to travel that distance, and a Mr. Street, taking in the situation, put up a horse mill about half way between Hickory and the present site of Virginia, and did an immense business, running night and day year after year. Farmers, in order to secure their turn in time to return the same day, often would start at midnight, or even before, and remain nearly all day at the mill before they could secure their grist.

In the fall of 1834, the first subscription school was organized, and taught by B. F. Nelson in a vacated log cabin on the premises of David Carr, Sen. Early in the autumn Mr. Nelson made his appearance in the settlement, and solicited the privilege of getting up a school. Mr. Carr gladly gave him the use of the cabin above mentioned, and furthermore, agreed to board him while engaged in the mission of teaching. He was a man of prepossessing appearance, a scholar and a gentleman, but after getting nicely initiated into the work, he was found to be a man decidedly wanting in energy and industry, and at times beastly intemperate, and in no way fitted to stimulate the morals and minds of his pupils. But as no other teacher could be secured, he was tolerated, with a fair attendance of scholars, till sometime in the last of February or the first of March, when, by gross neglect, he left the fire in such condition when leaving the building that it caught fire and burned up, thus bringing the school very suddenly to a close.

The cabin was located within a few rods of the present residence of Jacob Houke. Some of the scholars that attended this were: John Wells, Harvey, Elizabeth and Nancy Carr, Eliza Ann Turner, Philora Willis, John Hager, Jacob Monroe, David Wagner, Peter Wagner, and the boys of Wm. Cole. The second school that was taught in the precinct, was on the premises of Wm. Cole, who built a small cabin, especially for that purpose, and freely donated its use to any one qualified and willing to teach. Qualification then and now were decidedly two different things. At that day any one that had the mechanical skill to cut out and trim up a quill pen, and read and figure interest, was considered well qualified if he had the muscle necessary for applying the rod or ruler. The first teacher that availed himself of Mr. Cole's generous offer was Carlatan Logan, who, in the winter of 1836, taught a very good and satisfactory school. Some of the scholars that attended this school were C. Bowen, Ruth and Margaret Bowen, Jacob Pearson, Sallie and Austin Scott, William and Naomi Revis, Mary Jane Briar, children of W. Cole, and Carrie and Oliver Carr. The school was well attended, and many others attended, whose names cannot be recalled.

About 1840, a log school-house was erected at Hickory, David Carr, Sen., giving the land upon which it was built. A Mr. James Grant was among the first teachers. He, taking his bitters a little too frequently, which often got the better of him, was the greatest objection that the community had against him.

In 1857, a wooden frame building was raised near the site of the old log house, where school was continued till the present neat and convenient brick building was completed. It is nicely finished, seated and painted, and is said to be one of the nicest country school-buildings in the county. It was begun and completed in 1881, and cost

\$1,200. The committee that had the planning and building in charge was made up of David Carr, Jr., William Taylor and Andrew Schaad; they being the directors elect, were considered competent without official instruction to design and complete the work.

Previous to the building of the present brick, L. U. Revis taught some five years in succession. He was considered among the best and most active teachers that ever taught in the district. He is a man now well known over the entire United States, as the author and able advocate of moving the national capital to St. Louis, and those who have read his speeches and pamphlets on that subject cannot but be impressed with the weighty and forcible logic of his arguments.

The district was formerly much larger than at the present time. In 1860 or 1861, the voters began to talk about replacing the old building with a new one, but the northern portion of the district objected unless the new building was so placed that it divided more evenly the distance between the northern and southern portions of the district; this was refused, and the northern part of the original district seceded and built a school-house for themselves, where they have been very progressive and earnest in keeping up a lively interest in their school. This school is known as the Secession school, a term synonymous with its origin. There is one other school in the precinct, which is known as the Cotton Wood school. This is situated in the western part of the precinct, on section 11, and is among one of the progressive schools of the county. Hickory school pays the largest salary to teachers. The directors there pay from \$40 to \$60 per month. The people are fast realizing that a few dollars per month in a teacher's salary is not at all to be considered or compared to a poor school in the hands of a cheap teacher.

There are a few facts of more than ordinary

interest connected with the history of the precinct, facts that will stand associated with the names of the great actors that gave them birth, when the marble and bronze upon which their epitaphs are lettered and their names engraved, have crumbled and been defaced.

Stephen A. Douglas, the great American orator and statesman, made his first public speech in Hickory Precinct, under a walnut tree, long since dead and removed. The little American giant and the giant of the forest alike have yielded to the withering touch of time and decay, and passed away. Several years ago the old walnut died, and Gen. Lippincott in his deep veneration for the the name of the great American champion, purchased the tree, had it made into furniture and canes. The latter he presented to his friends, and they are now carried in almost every State of the Union, and will be treasured by father and son for generations to come as relics of priceless value. Gen. John J. Harding, who was killed in the Mexican War, lost his eye on the Sangamon Bottoms, in Hickory Precinct, while pursuing a deer. Col. E. D. Baker, who lead the Union forces across the Potomac at Ball's Bluff, and died so nobly in defending the flag of his country, the man who, if he had lived, would have risen to have smothered treason in the very birth-place of liberty, often hunted on the bottoms of the precinct, coming annually for years to pursue the chase, and rest from the fatiguing and confining labors of his extensive law practice. But he is gone, and died the death of a patriot.

"To every man upon this earth  
Death cometh soon or late,  
And how can man die better  
Than facing fearful odds,  
For the ashes of his fathers  
And the temples of his gods."

In the broad bottom of the Sangamon river,

the solitary settlers in the early days of their pioneer struggles, rejoiced to hear the early messengers of God proclaim the glad tidings of great joy, or wept at the story of Pilate, the crown of thorns and the agonies of Golgotha and Calvary. It is a fact highly commendable to the early settlers of Hickory Precinct, that with all their trials incident to settlement in a new and undeveloped country, nought but hardships and poorly compensated labor to weary and burden the mind, they did not forget nor forsake their God, the source of all life, light and happiness.

On the fifth Sabbath of July, 1848, we find a few Christian families assembled about five rods east of the present residence of Robert Taylor, under a temperary shelter made by setting a few posts into the ground and hastily covered with brush. The services were conducted by Rev. Daniel Bell, who was then residing in Mason County, at Bath or thereabouts, and being a special and intimate friend of Mr. Morgan, then a renter on the premises where the meetings were held, and having a vacation about that time, he was induced by him to come and preach to a few families under the circumstances above mentioned. After continuing the meetings about one week, and finding so much religious interest manifested, it was thought advisable to continue the meetings and secure additional clerical assistance. Revs. James White, then residing on a farm at Clary's Grove, and Nathan Downing, of Virginia, were then sent for, and in the meantime the place of meeting was moved to or near the present site of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church building, in a grove (since cut away). A stand was prepared between two native cherry trees, for the ministers, and rude seats arranged under the cooling canopy of leaves, for the audience. These meetings continued about three weeks in this beautiful grove, people gathering from far and near to hear God's glorious truth proclaimed amid the

hymns of praise that in the open air were wafted heavenward in a loud chorus of rejoicing voices.

"The groves were God's first temples." These meetings were, no doubt, the most interesting ever held along the Sangamon bottoms; about sixty souls were converted and added to the believing followers of Christ.

In August, 1848, a session was convened for the purpose of completing the organization of the church, consisting of Revs. Downing and White, and Lachlin McNeil, Elder of Mount Pleasant church, and opportunity being given to join the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, the following members came forward and gave a relation of their experimental acquaintance with the religion of Jesus Christ, which was considered satisfactory, and they were received as members of the church, viz: Thomas Wilson, George, William, Charles, Elizabeth and Ellen Briar, Susan, Mary Jane and Cyrus Horrom, Wm. Cook, Thomas Montgomery, James Fairon, Thomas and Ann Cooper, Emeline Anderson, Elizabeth Richardson, Hannah Capper, Susannah Harrington, Mary Carr, Sarah Horn, Angeline Torry, Manelis More, and J. Cook. These after being duly enrolled, were soon afterward baptized by the Rev. N. H. Downing. The church also received the following by experience: John Horrom, James Briar, Mary Briar, Joseph Cook, Sidney Ann Briar, Mary Briar, Janet Taylor, Eliza Canby and Wright Gill, all of whom had been previously baptized.

The above named converts having expressed a desire to organize a church, Robert Taylor having presented a certificate of membership in Mount Pleasant congregation, desired to unite with them, and was unanimously accepted and became a member.

In the organization of the church, N. H. Downing was installed as the regular pastor,

and Robert Taylor, Thomas Wilson and George Briar, were elected by the Congregation to the office of ruling Elders, and were ordained by Rev. N. H. Downing, and Thomas Wilson was elected Session Clerk.

After the above mentioned elections and business transactions, they decided to continue regular weekly meetings at the Hickory school house, where they met regularly every Sabbath till 1849, when they built their present church at a cost of \$1,000, besides the labor that was voluntarily given.

The lot of the church was purchased from H. Horrom, and deeded to the trustees of the church. The building committee was made up of the following members, viz.: John Horrom and Archibald Taylor. The following members were elected trustees of the church: Robert Taylor, John Horrom, Archibald Taylor, Wm. Briar, and Ralph Morgan; of these, Robert and Archibald Taylor are the only two living members, and virtually the only trustees of the church. Rev. N. H. Downing was the first pastor of the new church; and the most prominent ministers from that time to the present were: Abram Goodpasture, Wm. Bell, David Jolley, R. S. Schull, Amos Cox, J. E. Roach, and David Jolley, the latter being present pastor; also was pastor some fifteen years previous. The church has never been without a regular salaried minister since it was built. Peace and prosperity have attended the growth and progress of the society; God has blessed it, and great good has been accomplished, and its influence has reached far and wide.

Many years since the Baptists and Presbyterians united in organizing a Sabbath school. It has been very prosperous and progressive, some fifty scholars are in attendance. No nobler work could enlist the united efforts of the churches. Several years ago an organ was purchased, and more life and interest added to the school. Maggie Taylor, Alice

Kendall, Emma Fielden, and Miss M. Taylor, have officiated as organists. D. J. Cole, David Carr, and Robert Fielden have been Sabbath school superintendents most of the time, the latter being the present superintendent.

The Missionary Baptist Church at Hickory, was first organized in a small log cabin on the premises of Wm. Cole, built by him especially for school and religious purposes. Mr. Cole was the prime mover and the most active member in the little society. A man whose purse as well as heart was open to the Christian cause.

Rev. John Daniels, originally from the State of Virginia, was the first minister that preached to the little band of devoted followers of Christ. Services at the little cabin were continued for two years or more, with a growing interest. A Baptist church society was then organized, September 29, 1838, with the following members, viz.: William Cole, John Hicks, Amos Smith, Thomas J. Mosley, Mrs. Ellen Cole, Lucy Smith and Mrs. J. Logan.

After the society had completed a preliminary organization, T. J. Mosley was appointed to attend the Springfield Baptist Association, to request admittance into their union, which was unanimously granted. Mr. Amos Smith was appointed to write the church letters, with the approval of the pastor.

In 1839, a revival of more than usual interest was held at their regular place of meeting by Rev. John Daniels, and the following persons were converted and baptized: Mary E. Cole, Nancy Cooper, James M. Kemper, Allen Ingram, Robert Cole, Wm. W. Cole, B. J. Smith, Lydia Smith, Eliza Cooper, James Ingram, and M. Ingram; and Luther A. Jones, Druzilla Jones and Nancy May were received by letter.

In 1841, or thereabouts, the Hickory school





David Carr



house was built near the site of the present school building, and the Baptist Society finding their place of meeting too small to accommodate their increasing numbers, adjourned to the school house, where they continued meeting till their present church was built. They held their services in the school building in winter, and in the little grove near the school building (since cut away) in summer.

It was quite customary in that early day for a large proportion of the settlers to shoulder their rifles and spend the holy Sabbath in pursuing the game of the country, as there was little of a religious character to interest a roving, hunting disposition, and at these meetings held in the grove, the hunters would gather from the hills and the bottoms, stack their guns and listen to the sermons of Rev. Daniels, who being a man of eloquence as well as piety, soon converted many of these Sabbath breaking wanderers, and the crack of the rifle on the sacred Sabbath was much less frequently heard. The present church was built in 1852, and Mr. Wm. Cole, Sr., contributed about half the fund; it is a neat convenient frame building, costing some \$1,500 to complete it.

The building committee were R. S. Cole, D. J. Cole, L. M. Jones and T. Smith. The church at this time had some thirty members to contribute to its support.

The first board of trustees was made up of the following members: D. J. Cole, Luther M. Jones and James Fielding, the latter being the only trustee of the church remaining in the settlement. Rev. Mr. Hays, in 1854,

held an interesting series of protracted meetings at the church, and many were converted and added to the church. Rev. John Daniels was the first and also the last pastor of the church. He was pastor a greater portion of the time from the founding of the church till his death. A subscription is now being taken up to erect a monument to his memory; money could not be contributed to a worthier cause or nobler purpose. Rev. John Daniels was one of the first ministers of Hickory precinct; long, tireless and faithful were his labors in the service of the Master. He has gone to his long home.

Since the death of Rev. Daniels, no regular Sabbath services have been held, and no regular salaried minister employed. Many of the old members have moved to other parts, others have died, and are sleeping beneath the changing shadows of the hills, and so weakened the membership of the church, that the few scattered families remaining find it very difficult to revive its former interest, or build up its decaying strength.

In conclusion, we shall only say that farmers of the precinct as a general thing, are well to do, or wealthy and prosperous. They have seen the Sangamon Bottom changed from a wilderness of tangled grass, dense brush, and scrubby trees, overflowed and steaming with poison and miasma, shaking the inhabitants with ague and burning them with malignant fever, to a garden spot of Illinois, surpassing in loveliness and fertility anything we have ever seen.



# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

## VIRGINIA--CITY AND PRECINCT.

**THE BLACK FAMILY.** — **WILLIAM BLACK.** The grandfather of our subject was William Black, a militia captain, during the approach of the Revolutionary War. He was one of the first officers of the country who refused allegiance to the British crown. He died about the time the war commenced. His wife's maiden name was Beard. Thomas G. Black, one of his sons was born in January, 1772, in Mecklenburg County, N. C. He married Miss Polly, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Shepherd) Callahan, Feb. 26, 1795. She was born April 7, 1773. Her father was of Irish, and her mother of German, descent. Thomas G. departed this life Nov. 20, 1823, and his wife, Polly, died March 20, 1853. William, who still lives in Virginia, in Cass County, is one of the offspring of this union, and was born in Georgia, Jan. 3, 1796. He married in Tennessee, Dec. 4, 1823, Miss Mary S., daughter of Dixon and Susan Vaughn. She was born Nov. 1, 1803, and as a result of this union, they have born to them ten children. Six of their oldest were born in Tennessee, and the remaining four in Morgan, now Scott, County, Ill. Thomas G., the eldest of these, was born June 15, 1828. He served as a colonel of the Third Missouri Cavalry, in the late war, about three years, and is now practicing medicine at Clayton, Adams County, this State.

**AMANDA C.**, was born May 25, 1826. She died July 23, 1837.

**JOSEPH F.**, was born Feb. 23, 1828. Was six years of age when the family moved to Illinois, and consequently received his rudimental schooling in Scott County. His father came to Cass County in 1846, and Joseph commenced business for himself as a farmer, and followed it for several years. Being of a mechanical turn of mind, he became engrossed in the invention of a self-raking reaper. With years of experimenting, and the expenditure of some money, he developed a successfully working machine, upon which he secured a patent in 1856, and the binding attachment he sold to the Wood Reaper Manufacturing Company, and the same is now in use on their machines. Mr. Black is an architect of several years' successful experience. Has erected on contract many of the best buildings of Virginia, Jacksonville, and also built the Christian Church at Springfield, Ill., in 1880-81. Since 1876, he has been a resident of Virginia. He has been twice married; first to Miss Mary F. Wilmott, daughter of Charles R. Wilmott, a resident of Morgan County. She died Jan. 26, 1879, leaving five children, Charles W., Mary B., now Mrs. Armsted Mains, a farmer of Cass County, Eva L., or Mrs. Wm. G. Payne, of Virginia. Robert W. and Joseph F., jr., reside at home. May 2, 1882,

Mr. Black again married, Mrs. Mary J. Skiles, of Virginia, widow of Ignatius Skiles (deceased). Mr. Black is a member of the Christian Church, and of the I. O. O. F., and K. of H.

WILLIAM L., was born June 8, 1829. He commenced life as a farmer in Cass County, and continued in that business until the fall of 1878, and in 1879 entered mercantile business with his brother, John, under firm name of Black Brothers, in Virginia. March 24th, 1857, he married Miss Adromcha, daughter of Alexander and Martha (Clark) Naylor, natives of Kentucky. She died Jan. 31, 1879, leaving three daughters: Alice, Carrie and Fannie. Mrs. Black was a member of the Christian Church, as is also Mr. Black. He is a life-long Republican, and a member of the I. O. O. F., Virginia Lodge.

RICHARD V., was born October 27, 1831; moved to Nebraska about 1860, and located near Nebraska City, where he is engaged in farming. He served three years in the One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He entered as a Sergeant, and was soon advanced to a Captain.

JOHN JEFFERSON, was born Oct. 24, 1833, and died August 22, 1839.

GREEN V., was born on the 3d day of August, 1836. He is a resident of Jacksonville, and a successful dentist. He served a short time as a volunteer soldier in the late war, but was discharged on account of disability.

JAMES B., is the seventh son of his father, and was born Oct. 9, 1839, in Scott County; he attended the common schools of Cass County, and later, the Cumberland Presbyterian Academy, in Virginia. At the age of 19, he commenced teaching school in Cass County, and in the fall of 1861, he enlisted in Company C, Third Ill. Vol. Cavalry, in which he served about two years. While in service, he was engaged in several battles, among which was Pea Ridge; was with Sherman at Vicksburg. He entered as a pri-

vate and was promoted to First Lieutenant of his company. He was compelled to resign his commission in 1863, on account of ill health; returned home, and resumed teaching. He served as instructor in the State Institution for the Blind, at Jacksonville, in 1864, '65 and '66, and afterward became principal in the public schools of Jacksonville. After farming four years, he was in 1873 elected clerk of Cass County, which office he has continuously held. Since July, 1878, he has also been the cashier of the Centennial National Bank, of Virginia. July 1, 1867, he married Miss Eliza J. Ewing, daughter of William Ewing (deceased), of Jacksonville. They have one daughter, May.

MARY J., was born Dec. 13, 1840. She was married in 1857, to George A. Beard, a prominent farmer of Cass County. She died Feb. 26, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Black are members of the Christian Church, and he of the A. O. U. W. and K. of H. John, the youngest of the family, was born Dec. 21, 1844, in Scott. He entered the mercantile business in Virginia in 1876. He married Maggie Blair, March 15, 1866, and they have five daughters: Emma L., Cora E., Ida F., Jessie G., and Maggie E. Mr. and Mrs. Black are both members of the Christian Church. He is a Republican, and a member of the K. of H. of Virginia.

CHARLES W., was born in Princeton Precinct, Sept. 19, 1850; is the oldest son of Joseph F. Black, of whom an extended mention is made in the foregoing sketch of the Black family. He received his education at the Washington School House, near Philadelphia, this county, except a six months commercial course in the Business College in Jacksonville, this State. Nov. 24, 1870, he married Miss Elsie E. Buckley, daughter of Mark and Cornelia Job Buckley, in Philadelphia Precinct. Mark Buckley is a native of England, and his wife was born at

Sylvan Grove, this county, Dec. 30, 1823, and is daughter of Archibald and Jane (Brierly) Job, of whom see Historical Sketch elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Black engaged in farming for three years, and in 1873 was appointed Deputy Clerk of Cass County, and has since that time filled the position with such efficiency, that he has received the nomination on the Republican ticket to succeed his uncle, James B. Black, Clerk elect. Mr. and Mrs. Black have three children: Mabel Ora, Roy Lestie, and Mary Lora. Since 1867 they have been members of the Christian Church of Virginia, and Mr. Black is a member of the I. O. O. F. and A. O. U. W.

HENRY BEVIS, Virginia City, one of the respected and thrifty citizens of Cass County, is a native of the Buckeye State, and was born near the city of Cincinnati, Oct. 23, 1836. He is the oldest son of David and Achsah (Stout) Bevis. David Bevis was also a native of Ohio, his father Jesse having come to Hamilton County about the year 1800; Jesse, his father, was the third son of a family of six sons and six daughters, and was for about forty years U. S. Postmaster at Bevis Post-office, which took its name from the family. Our subject received his education at the Farmers' College, about six miles north of Cincinnati. After leaving school he taught one winter. April 20, 1854, he married Miss Sarah J. Stout, daughter of Philemon Stout, a native of New Jersey, and came with his parents to Hamilton County, O., when a small boy, and in 1831 to Cass County. Mr. Bevis came to Illinois in October, 1857; he has since that time followed his trade as a carpenter and builder, except about five years, spent in the mercantile business at Philadelphia. He served as surveyor of Cass County one term of four years from 1867. Mr. Bevis is a Democrat. Himself and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and they have four children: Flora, Albon, Philemon, and Grace.

LEVI CONOVER, deceased. Among the sturdy pioneers who converted the wild prairie into productive farms, and built up the little commonwealth of Cass County, was the lamented Levi Conover. His grandfather, Dominicus Conover, emigrated from Holland about 1820, and settled in New Jersey. He had five sons: William, John, Garrett, Levi, and Peter. The least of the five brothers when of middle age, weighed 250 pounds, and the largest 295. The fourth of the sons of Dominicus (Levi) was the father of the subject of this sketch, and was born in 1760. He entered the Federal Cavalry service in 1776, being in his seventeenth year. He served five years, as did his brother Garrett. In the year 1785, being twenty-five years of age, he married Catharine Dye, and in 1790 he and his brother Garrett, with their families, removed to the State of Kentucky, and settled near Lexington. In 1795 both brothers removed to Adair County, Ky., and purchased farms near Columbia. Their brother Peter followed them from New Jersey in 1800, and settled near Lexington, their two older brothers, William and John, remaining in New Jersey. In 1801 Levi's wife died, leaving him seven children. In 1802 he married Mrs. Jane Gelbirth Turnbow; she had by her former husband two sons, John and Hugh, who were brought up by their uncle, Hugh Gelbirth. They were with General Jackson in 1812, at the battle of New Orleans. Five children, two daughters and three sons, were the fruits of this second marriage: Peter, James, Matilda, Levi, and Jackson. Levi was born Jan. 14, 1808; his brother Peter, in the year 1825, came to Illinois, and entered the Gilmore farm, two miles south of Princeton, then in Sangamon, now in Morgan County. In 1827 he sold his first purchase, and entered 240 acres just east of the Jeff Crum farm, in this county, where he remained until 1860. He then moved to

*Yours  
Levi  
of  
Iowa*

Mason County, this State, where he still lives, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. In the year 1832, the subject of this sketch, and his sister Matilda, with her husband, Asa B. Lane, came to Illinois. He was then twenty-two years of age. His outfit upon leaving Kentucky consisted of a good horse, a fine mare and colt, and a small amount of money. After having traveled three days, he awoke one morning to find that his mare and colt had been stolen, and a week was spent by the entire party in a fruitless search for the missing property. On reaching Illinois with one horse, his money was all spent, and he was in debt to his brother Peter and Mr. Lane. Thus, one of Cass County's most successful pioneers commenced his career without means, except that most valuable capital, health, honesty, industry, and economy. He purchased another horse of his brother Peter, for \$35, paying for the same by splitting rails at fifty cents per hundred. After paying this debt he continued rail splitting until he had accumulated \$105 in silver. This he loaned to a man who moved to Iowa, and he never collected a cent of the debt. In the spring of 1834, he went to Galena and worked in the lead mines at Mineral Point, until fall, when he returned and emigrated to Iowa. There he bought a claim for \$75, and divided it with a friend. They returned to Illinois, purchased oxen and wagons, and then returned to Iowa, and spent the next summer in breaking and improving their farms. During the spring of 1835, he, Mr. Conover, built for himself a substantial hewed log house, 16x18, a smoke-house, and a stable. Unable to obtain plank, a quilt was hung up at the opening left for a door, to keep the wolves out. Finally the door and floor were made of puncheon. In November, 1836, he married Miss Elizabeth Petefish, of Cass County, sister of S. H. and Jacob Petefish, and they soon after proceeded to their

Iowa home. They returned to Illinois in August, 1837, on a visit. Mr. Conover returned to Iowa after a two weeks stay, leaving his wife to complete her visit. She was soon taken sick and died the latter part of that same month. So imperfect were the mail facilities at that time, that he did not learn of her death until two weeks after her burial. This sore bereavement unsettled his plans, and he sold his claim of 560 acres for \$3,000 in silver, with which he returned to Cass County, and loaned it to his friends, Jacob Epler, Capt. Charles Beggs, and J. Bradley Thompson. In January, 1841, he purchased the old homestead of the family, from his cousin John, son of Peter Conover, which was settled in 1822. His experience on first settling in this county was not unlike that of many of the energetic and resolute class of men who were the pioneers of the West, and to whom the public are indebted for the orderly and intelligent character of the society we now enjoy. His second marriage was to Miss Phebe A. Rosenberger, who with three children, George, Charles W., and Ellen, now survives him. Mrs. Conover's father, John Rosenberger, and her mother, were both of German parentage, and came to Illinois and settled at Princeton, in 1836. They raised a large family, of which Phebe A., was the oldest; George, the oldest living son of the Conover family, was born Sept. 11, 1846, at the Conover homestead near Princeton. He is the fourth of the family, two older sisters having died, and one, Mrs. William Epler, still survives. He received his rudimental schooling at Zion school-house, and afterwards attended the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill., and took a commercial course at Bryant & Stratton's Business College, Chicago. At twenty-one years of age he commenced farming, in which business he remained from 1870 to 1876, when he became connected as a partner in the bank-



ing firm of Petefish, Skiles & Co., and since that time has acted as assistant cashier and book-keeper. Feb. 23, 1871, he married Virginia Bone, a daughter of William Bone, of Sangamon County, later of Lincoln, Ill. Mr. Conover was the fourth of a family of five children, and was born Sept. 11, 1846. They have two children, William B. and Earnest B. Mr. Conover is Secretary of and a stockholder in the Importers and Breeders' Association of Cass County, and also a member of the Building Association of Virginia. Charles W., is the fifth youngest of the family, and was born April 1, 1849, on the homestead; he was educated and brought up a farmer, and has steadily adhered to his calling. He owns and lives on the Conover homestead, which he has successfully managed since it came into his possession. He married Miss Louise Dever, April 1, 1875; she is a daughter of John Dever (deceased), a farmer and native of Ohio. They have three children: Millie, Dasie L., and an infant not named. Mr. Conover is a thrifty farmer, a Democrat, and much respected in the community.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL, one of the most enterprising, energetic and prosperous pioneers of Cass County, was born in Ireland, April 15, 1818. His father, Archibald, had four daughters and three sons. Our subject emigrated to America and to Cass County in the spring of 1840. His sister Mary preceded him, and another sister, Catharine, came afterward. He located upon his present homestead, and commenced laying the foundation of a success, seldom enjoyed by any who commenced in so humble a manner. Mr. Campbell brought with him only a small amount of money, all of which was expended in starting him on his first piece of land. He is now owner of about nineteen hundred acres of Cass County soil; also holds a considerable amount of Virginia City property, and is a member of the well known banking firm of

Petefish, Skiles & Company. October 10, 1845, he married Miss Mary Studbrank, a native of Germany. Her father, Fredric Studbrank, emigrated from Germany when she was small, and located in Cass County. Mrs. Campbell died May 23, 1872, in the forty-seventh year of her age, leaving three sons and one daughter, Henry J., Alfred, Edwin, and Emma J. Ann L., William E., Charles, and an infant, are deceased. Mr. Campbell has held the office of County Commissioner several years, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Henry J. was born Nov. 25, 1850. He received his schooling in Virginia, and entered farming in 1875. March 1, 1877, he married Miss Maggie Taylor, daughter of Robert and Jenette (Cunningham) Taylor, of the Sangamon Bottom, Cass County, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Campbell is the third of a family of seven daughters and five sons, and was born Dec. 2, 1852. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have one son, William V. Mr. Campbell owns a farm of 200 acres; being a practical farmer, seldom fails of a profitable year's business.

J. B. CRAFT, proprietor Virginia House, is a native of Fayette County, Pa., and was born at Brownsville, July 30, 1833. His father, William B. Craft, was a manufacturer of grain-cleaning machines, and was also a native of the Key-stone State. He married Evaline White, a native of Ohio. They raised a family of seven children, and our subject was their second child. J. B. received his schooling in Brownsville, and there learned the carriage maker's trade, which he followed about eight years. He came to Cass County in 1864. In 1871 he took charge of his present hotel, and from that time until the present, except one year (1874) spent in the grocery trade, has been its proprietor. William B., his father, died in the year 1855, and his mother is still living, a resident of Fulton County. Our sub-

ject was married Oct. 9, 1862, to Miss Phoebe L. Dunaway, daughter of James Dunaway, a farmer of Fayette County, Pa., where she was born March 5, 1845. They have six children, four sons and two daughters, viz.: Annie E., W. Earnest, Edward, Thomas, Bertha and George. Mr. Craft has been from time to time identified with the public interests and growth of Virginia, aside from providing the city with an all important adjunct, "a first-class hotel;" has served as a member of the City Council about six years. He has been for several years a member of the School Board, Police Magistrate, and is at present the City Treasurer, which position he has filled about eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Craft are both members of the Christian church.

DR. S. M. COLLADAY, for several years a successful practicing physician of Virginia, is a native of the city of New York; was born Aug. 27, 1842. His father, Charles H. Colladay, was a native of Philadelphia, Pa., and was by occupation a last manufacturer, and carried on business in New York for about twenty-one years. He was from German and French Huguenot descent; married Miss Sarah Jane Lutes, a native of Orange County, N.Y., who was of German and of Puritan stock. He died in 1856; whereupon, our subject came west to Fulton County, Ill. In 1861, he entered the army, enlisting in the 5th Michigan Vol. Infty., from Macomb County. His regiment was assigned to Gen. Kearney's division of the 3d corps, in which division he served until his discharge on account of disability, in November, 1862. Dr. Colladay studied medicine in Fulton County, Ill., and afterward entered the medical department of the Michigan State University, and graduated from that institution in the class of 1873. He spent two years practicing his profession, at Kansas City, Mo., and in 1875 came to Virginia and entered the drug business with Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, un-

der the firm name of Colladay & Wilkinson. In 1879, Mr. C. B. Gatton purchased Mr. Wilkinson's interest, and the firm of Colladay & Gatton continued the business until January, 1881, when Dr. Colladay withdrew, to devote his time to the practice of his profession. October, 1874, he married Miss Cornelia H. Wilkinson, of Vermont, Fulton County, Ill. Mrs. Colladay is a native of Pennsylvania, and from childhood has lived in Fulton county. They have two sons, Charles and Edward. Mrs. Charles Colladay, the doctor's mother, is still living at Lincoln, Neb. Of her six children, three are still living: our subject; Frank, a hardware merchant, of Waterloo, Iowa; and Louise, now Mrs. Dr. E. P. Hemer, of Lincoln.

DAVID M. CRUM; farmer, P. O. Virginia; was born in Arenzville Precinct, Dec. 25, 1853, and is a son of Christian Crum. He received a good education, having attended the Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, Ills., for some time, and engaged in farming, which occupation he still pursues. In Virginia, this county, Nov. 24, 1875, he married Henrietta B. Payne, a native of Missouri, born Sept. 21, 1856, daughter of W. B. and Elizabeth Payne of Virginia, this county; by this union they have been blessed with three children: Bessie L., Vida V., and Mabel A. Mr. Crum is a member of the M. E. Church and is Secretary of Lodge No. 68, I. O. O. F. of Virginia, this county; he is a Democrat.

FINIS E. DOWNING, Circuit Clerk of Cass County; is a native of the city of Virginia, Cass Co., and was born Aug. 24, 1846. His father, Nathan H. Downing, was a Cumberland Presbyterian Clergyman, a native of Kentucky, and a son of John Downing, who was a native of Bedford County, Va., and married Susannah Hall, a native of same place. John Downing had a family of twelve children, nine of whom lived to maturity. He removed from Virginia to Kentucky with his parents

in early life, and from thence to Marion County, Mo., in 1827, and pursued farming until his death, in June, 1832. His wife survived him until March 3, 1861. Nathan H. Downing came to Cass County in 1842. He married Miss Eliza Head, a native of Howard County, Mo., and a daughter of John Head, a farmer and surveyor. He died in Virginia, Nov. 30, 1853. They had five children, two sons and three daughters, viz.: John C., Finis E., Lucy J., now Mrs. Green Middleton, of York County, Neb. John C., who died in a hospital at Memphis, Miss., April 10, 1863. He enlisted in the 114th Ill. Vol. Infy. August 13, 1862, a historical sketch of which appears elsewhere in this book. Finis married Jan. 15, 1868, to Miss Sue H. Payne, daughter of William B. Payne, of Virginia. They have one son, Harry. Mr. Downing was elected to the office of Circuit Clerk of Cass County in November, 1880. He first entered business as clerk for William B. Payne, and continued with him about five years, and after the first year was his partner. He removed to Missouri in 1869, and there remained until 1875, and then returned to Virginia and clerked for Mr. Payne until his election. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., A. O. U. W., and A. F. and A. M., of Virginia.

JOHN M. DIRREEN, Deputy Sheriff of Cass County, Virginia, is a native of Cass County, and was born in Virginia, July 29, 1840. His father, Edward, was a farmer, a native of Ireland, and came to Cass County in April, 1837. His mother was formerly Miss Jane Himphey, and also a native of the Emerald Isle; came to Cass County in 1835, and is still living. She has nine children, three of whom are deceased; the remaining six are still living, viz.: Catharine, Eliza, Alice, Michael, Edward, and our subject, who was brought up a farmer, and followed that business until February, 1878. In 1871, he married to Miss Nancy Cunningham, a native of

Cass County. She died February 23, 1878, leaving one daughter, Josephine. Mr. Dirreen is a Democrat in politics, and since Aug. 23, 1878, has held his present responsible position, which he has thus far filled with satisfaction to the people of his county.

ELI M. DALE, one of the thrifty farmers of Cass County, was born at Bedford, Lawrence County, Ind., Jan. 1, 1844, and is a son of Eli and Elizabeth (Waugh) Dale. The former a native of Cumberland County, Pa., born Feb. 3, 1816, and the latter 1821, in North Carolina. Mrs. Dale died, leaving four sons and two daughters, namely: Samuel, a lawyer for five years in Beardstown, now in Colorado; Eli M., our subject, Emily M., William W., Mary A., George A. Eli Dale's grandfather on his mother's side, McCracken, was an Irishman; he came to America in time to serve eight years in the Revolutionary war, and fought on the American side. His grandfather on his father's side (Dale) was a German. Eli M., our subject, received his schooling in his native county; came to Cass County in 1865, and engaged in the manufacture of brick, and in building, in company with his father, Eli, and his brother, under the firm name of Eli Dale & Sons. The firm continued in this business successfully until 1876, and since that time he has been farming in Virginia Precinct. Our subject entered the army for the suppression of the Rebellion in 1862, from Indiana, in the Sixty-seventh Volunteer Infantry, in which regiment he served about nine months, as a private, and was discharged on account of disability. Upon sufficiently recovering, he again entered the army in the One Hundred and Thirty-Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in which he served one hundred days, the full time for which he enlisted, and received his discharge, and a third time enlisted; this time in the One Hundred and Fortieth Indiana Infantry, and served until the war closed. This record

speaks for itself, and shows that the patriotic zeal of our subject must have been inherited, or he would, on general principles, have got enough of the war on first trial, after having lost his health. During his term of service he was advanced to the rank of Lieutenant of his company, and participated in several severe engagements. He was discharged in 1865, and came to Illinois, as before mentioned. Dec. 20, 1869, he married Miss Lida E. Tureman, daughter of George and Elizabeth (Glover) Tureman, who was born Dec. 21, 1851. Mr. Tureman is a native of North Carolina, and Mrs. Tureman of Morgan County. They have two children: Stella M. and Cora T.

WILLIAM DOWDALL, a thrifty farmer of Cass County, Virginia precinct, came to Cass County in 1851, *via* New Orleans, having landed there direct from Ireland, where he was born, Sept. 10, 1830; his native home was within sixteen miles of the renowned city of Belfast, the pride of the Emerald Isle. His father, Hugh Dowdall, was a farmer, brought up his sons as farmers, and our subject shows, in his methods of directing his farm, the thoroughness that characterized his father's labors. Mr. Dowdall located on his present place of 176 acres, soon after his arrival in Cass County, and in Dec. 18, 1852, was married to Miss Jane Havern, also a native of Ireland, who came to America on the same ship with Mr. Dowdall. They have four children: Hugh H., William J., Samuel W. and Mary Jane. Mr. and Mrs. Dowdall are members of the Presbyterian Church, of Virginia, and he belongs to the Republican party.

THE EPLER FAMILY is of German origin. ABRAM EPLER, was born in Lancaster (now Dauphin) County, Penn., Feb. 28, 1769. He was married in 1791, to Miss Anna Oldweiler. She was born Oct. 26, 1768. In 1798 he emigrated to Kentucky, and settled near

the falls of the Ohio, from whence he removed across the Ohio river, into what is now Clarke County, Ind. He was a man of commendable enterprise and industry, a miller, distiller and farmer, and disposed of the products of his varied business in southern markets, principally New Orleans, transportation being by flat boats, steamboats not yet having been introduced on Western waters. In 1832, Abram Epler removed to Illinois, settling on Indian Creek, in Morgan County, Ills., on section two, township sixteen north, range nine west, of the third principal meridian, where he died Jan. 22, 1837. Abram Epler was the father of a family of six sons and five daughters, who widely scattered, settling in various parts of the West. John, Jacob, David and Isaac preceded him to Illinois, and settled on farms now embraced within the limits of Cass County. George, the youngest son, remaining with his parents, attending them in their removal to Illinois, resided at the old homestead until his removal to Sangamon County, near Farmingdale, where he died Sept. 5, 1867. John and David are deceased, Jacob resides at Pleasant Plains, Sangamon County, Ill., which prosperous village he settled and founded about the year 1848. Isaac resides in Otoe County, Neb., near Nebraska City. The above named, John, Jacob, David, Isaac and George, were enterprising and eminently successful farmers, and were among the leaders of that noble class of men, who by their industry, morality and exemplary citizenship, laid the foundations of our social and civil institutions, with credit to themselves, and with honor to their country. Anna, the mother of this family, died May 3, 1847.

JOHN EPLER, the oldest son of Abram, was born in Lancaster County, Penn., April 15, 1795, being about four years of age when his parents settled in Clark County, Ind., and being the oldest son, was always his father's

right hand business man. Early in youth he assumed the more weighty responsibilities of his father's heavy river transportation, and often made long and profitable trips down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, with the cargoes of the product of his father's business. Closing out, perhaps, at New Orleans, he would purchase a saddle horse, and return home across the country. He married Miss Sarah Beggs, a daughter of Captain Charles Beggs, a pioneer of 1829, of Morgan County. She was born at the falls of the Ohio, April 28, 1800. John Epler came to Cass County, located at Little Indian, in 1831, and up to the time of his death, which occurred in Cass County, May 26, 1876, was one of the most active citizens, and enterprising farmers of that county. He was no scholar, yet his reading took a wide range, and but few in busy life possessed the historical information which he did. In Biblical, Ancient and Modern History he was considered an authority by all who interested themselves in such studies. He raised a family of twelve children: Charles B., who married to Miss Mary Lurton, daughter of Dr. Lurton, of Jacksonville, Ill.; died 1855, leaving no offspring. Abram, the second, died Aug. 7, 1847, unmarried. Cyrus is a resident of Jacksonville, and Judge of the judicial district, of which Morgan County is a part. Mary, and the fourth child, married Richard Barnett, of Sangamon County. She died in 1859. Sarah is now Mrs. D. W. Fairbank, a merchant of Jacksonville; Elizabeth the sixth child, married H. H. Hall, now of Jacksonville. She died at Faribault, Minn., in 1869, leaving five children.

JOHN M., one of the prominent farmers of Cass County, was in early life one of the main stays of his father's family. He attended the common schools of the county, and at twenty-one years of age, purchased a portion of the land now comprising his estate of 200 acres. He has for years past devoted much

time to the breeding and raising of short-horn cattle, of which he has a fine herd. Has been twice chosen a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and has for twenty years been connected with Cass County Agricultural Society, and for five years a presiding officer of the organization. March 29, 1855, he married Miss Nancy A., daughter of Hon. David and (Rachael R. Johnson) Epler. She was born Oct. 27, 1833, and is mother of seven children, viz.: Edward E., Laura, Mary A., John W., Frankie, Charles and Frank, who died in infancy. Mr. Epler is one of the charter members of the Knights of Honor of Virginia, and is identified with the Democratic party.

WILLIAM, the eighth of the family, now a prominent citizen of Virginia, is a grain dealer and shipper. At the age of twenty-eight was a member of the first Constitutional Convention of the State of Nevada, held at Carson City in 1863, in which State he was for eight years engaged as Civil Engineer and Deputy U. S. Land and Mineral Surveyor and during a part of that time connected with the engineering department of the Central Pacific Railroad Company, of California. In 1869, he returned to Cass County and settled on his farm near Little Indian. In 1874, was elected Sheriff of Cass County, where he has since resided. He married Miss Jennie Woodman of Paw Paw, Van Buren Co., Mich. The ceremony took place April 12, 1859, at Duluth, Minn., and was the first marriage of white persons pronounced in that city. Mrs. Epler died at Star City, Humboldt Co., Nevada, Oct. 2, 1863, leaving one daughter, Miss Nellie W. Mr. Epler again married, Miss Ellen Conover July 5, 1870. Ellen is daughter of Levi Conover (of whom see sketch elsewhere in this volume), and they have two children, Florence and Myron.

DAVID was the ninth child of the family, and died at the age of two years.

MYRON, the tenth child, lived to acquire an excellent education, and a thorough knowledge of the law, and located in Chicago. Hard study had shattered his constitution, and in spite of much travel and most strenuous efforts to regain his health, he died at Helena City, Montana, Sept. 5, 1866.

MARGARET E. received a Seminary education at Monticello, Ill.; married John W. Price, a prominent druggist of Princeton, Bureau Co., Ill.

ALBERT, the youngest of the family and the present Mayor of Virginia, was born Jan. 22, 1845 at the Epler homestead. After receiving his rudimental schooling at home, he took a course of study at the Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, finishing in 1864. He then engaged in farming until 1871, when he entered the livery business for two years. Since that time he has been engaged in the sale of agricultural implements and farm hardware, and dealing in grain. In 1880-81, he served as alderman of his ward, and in the fall of 1881 was elected to the city Mayorship. He married Miss Martha J. Vance, daughter of Samuel S. Vance (deceased), who was a prominent farmer and stock man of Cass County. Mrs. Epler was born in Morgan County, Aug. 9, 1845. They have seven children, viz.: Nellie, Edgar, Lizzie, Ada L., Frederick, Jessie, and Ralph, of whom Frederick is deceased.

JACOB A. EPLER, farmer; P. O. Virginia City; for many years one of the thrifty agriculturists of his county; is a son of David Epler, who was the son of Abraham, of whom we find more particular mention in a sketch of the Epler family, elsewhere in this work. David Epler was the second son of his father, a successful teamster, and later, a farmer of the early-day type. He came to Cass County a short time previous to the deep snow of 1830, located in North Prairie, on Section 35, Tp. 17, Range 11, where he improved a farm

of about 640 acres. He married Miss Rachel R. Johnson, of Louisville, Ky., and a native of that State. They raised a family of eight children, viz.: Joseph A., John T. (deceased), Nancy A., now Mrs. John Milton Epler (see sketch), Mary A., James M., an able lawyer of Jacksonville, William F., Assistant Cashier in the First National Bank of Jacksonville, Jacob A., and Rachel L., now Mrs. John McHenry, a farmer of Cass County and a resident of Virginia. Jacob A., our subject, spent his latter school-days in the Illinois College at Jacksonville, and from that time has been a successful farmer. He lives in Virginia, and has for several years been connected with the banking interests of his town. Nov. 13, 1861, he married Miss Sarah, daughter of Oswell Thompson, a native of Ohio, and one of the earliest pioneers of Cass County. Mr. and Mrs. Epler have three children: Fannie M., Nancy J., and Albert E.

J. N. GRIDLEY, attorney, of Virginia City, and one of the most successful in the profession in Cass County, is a native of Manchester, N. H. His father, John J. Gridley, was for many years a Methodist preacher, and preached throughout the States of New York, Michigan, and Northern Illinois. He is of English descent, and married Miss Elizabeth Mitchell, a native of Portsmouth, N. H., and is of English and Scotch ancestry. He now resides at Greenville, Mercer County, Penn.; Mrs. G. died in August, 1865. James N., our subject, is the oldest of the family, and was born June 15, 1842. He has two sisters younger, Miss Kate, and Elizabeth, who is now Mrs. William Bennett, at Beardstown. The youngest of the family was Albert, a farmer and teacher of Cass County. He went to Minnesota to recover his lost health, and there died Aug. 18, 1874. Our subject, in the year 1861, entered the Michigan State Agricultural College at Lansing, as a Freshman. He remained there about seven

months, and then went to Ypsilanti, same State, where he spent two years in a Seminary, under Prof. Estabrook. In 1863, Mr. Gridley came to Oregon Precinct, Cass Co., and began farming. He taught during the winter season in the public schools of Virginia, and devoted a portion of his time to the study of law, and in August, 1868, was admitted to the bar of the State. Since then his time has been given mostly to the practice of his profession. He commenced the practice of law alone, and in 1871 he formed a partnership with I. J. Ketcham, of Jacksonville, which arrangement still exists. Since its organization, the firm has done a profitable business, their practice being principally in criminal, chancery and real estate. Further mention of the firm and of Mr. Gridley's abstract business, will be found elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Gridley married Oct. 11, 1871, Miss Frances A. Hill, daughter of Ebenezer Hill (deceased), and Mary Birden Hill (also deceased). Mr. Hill was a native of New York, and Mrs. H. a native of Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Gridley have four children: Charles, Nellie, Burton, and Harry. In politics, Mr. Gridley is a Democrat; he is a member of the Knights of Honor, Virginia Lodge.

MORRISON GRAVES, one of the oldest natives of Cass County, and for many years a business man of Virginia, was born in Monroe Precinct, Aug. 29, 1835. His father, Richard, was a native of Kentucky, and came to Illinois in the year 1828; located in the above named precinct, on the farm now occupied by Mr. James M. Graves, one of his sons. He married Miss Nancy Martin, also a native of Kentucky, and they raised a family of three sons and two daughters. Our subject received his schooling entirely in Cass County, and made farming his occupation up to the year 1872, when he came to Virginia, and entered the livery business with A. G. Epler, under

the firm name of Graves & Epler. Mr. Graves, this same year, 1865, also engaged in buying and shipping stock and since that time has followed the business. The firm of Graves & Epler continued until about 1876, and in 1878, Mr. Reuben Lancaster bought one-half interest in the stock, and the present firm of Graves & Lancaster has continued up to the present time. Mr. Graves was married, Nov. 19, 1857, to Miss Julia C. Nall, daughter of Charles Nall, then a farmer of Cass County, now in Macon County, Mo. Mr. Nall is a native of Kentucky, and came to Illinois about 1855. Mr. and Mrs. Graves have three children: Willis S., Appeline and Nellie May. They are both members of the Christian Church, and Mr. Graves is a Republican, a member of the Knights of Honor, A. O. U. W., and the I. O. O. F. of Virginia Lodge.

JOHN GORE, for nine years a resident of Virginia, is a native of Taylorsville, Ky., and was born Jan. 14, 1834. His father, Rector Gore, was a farmer by occupation, a native of the same State, and was born in the year 1809. He married Miss Amanda, daughter of David and Susan (Willet) Graff, also natives of Kentucky. Mrs. Gore died in the year 1834, having borne three children, viz.: Joshua, now a farmer of Menard County, this State, Evaline, who died when small, and our subject, the youngest. Mr. Gore survived until 1859. John, being an infant when his mother died, was consigned to the care and protection of his grandparents, the Graffs, and they, in that same year (1834), came to Illinois, and settled on a farm in Morgan county. He remained with them until he had reached years of discretion, and was able to care for himself. He attended the common schools of their neighborhood, and later, the Illinois College at Jacksonville; graduated from that institution in 1854, and received the degree of B. S. He commenced teaching school at sixteen years of age, and followed

it, as a profession, for about twenty-five years, in the counties of Morgan, Adams, and Cass. As an instructor he has been successful, to the extent of having acquired some means, which he has mostly invested in Cass County farming land, and was called by the people to serve as the Superintendent of the Public Schools of Cass county in 1872, for four years, or one term. March 22d, 1859, he married Miss Mattie Easum, daughter of Charles and Margaret (Swope) Easum, he of Maryland, she of Kentucky. They came to Illinois in 1854, and located on a farm in Adams county; raised a family of ten children, of whom Mrs. Gore was the second born. Mr. Easum died Aug. 21, 1871, and Mrs. Easum Jan. 8, 1865. Mr. Gore has recently become proprietor of the City Hotel, which he conducts with the same degree of success that has thus far characterized his life. He and Mrs. Gore are members of the Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Gore is a member of the I. O. O. F., Virginia Lodge.

Z. W. GATTON, banker; Virginia City. Among those of the early and sturdy pioneers of Cass County, was Thomas Gatton, a native of the State of Maryland, and father of the subject of this brief sketch. He lived in Maryland until January, 1779, when he emigrated to Kentucky, settled in Allen County, and engaged in merchandising. There he remained until he came to Illinois in 1824, and located about one quarter of a mile east of where Little Indian Station is now located. At this point he opened the first store in what was then Morgan County, but now Cass. Thomas Gatton raised a family of six sons and four daughters. All but one, the youngest, were born in Kentucky. Zachariah W. was the fourth son, and was born Nov. 13, 1812, being about twelve years of age when they came to Morgan County. It is well-known what the school advantages of those days were, and the young Gattons shared the

common lot of other young pioneers, studied such books as were within their reach, and from stern experience learned the common every-day lessons not found in books, of how to earn a living, and get a start in the world. Our subject has, from the time of his advent into Illinois, been closely identified with the agricultural interests of his county. In 1847 he married Miss Sarah C., daughter of Arthur Saint Claire Miller, a speculator, of Covington, Ky., and they have had six children, all born in Virginia Precinct, of whom four are now living: Emma K., Kate A., Charles B., and William R. Charles B., the second of the family, is a resident merchant of Virginia; was born April 14, 1850. After attending the public schools of his native town, he entered the grocery business, being at that time nineteen years of age. He continued in that business until 1879, and then entered the drug and hardware business, in which he is still successfully employed. He married Nov. 13, 1879, Miss Mary Kemper, daughter of Thomas J. Kemper, now of Springfield; and they have one daughter, Floy, and a son, Roscoe B.

CHARLES M. HUBBARD, physician, Virginia City. Doctor Charles M. Hubbard, one of the most successful physicians of Cass County, was born July 25, 1848, at Lempster, New Hampshire. His father, George N. Hubbard, a native of Vermont, and for more than thirty years a merchant of Providence, R. I., came West, located in Chicago, and engaged in the tin ware and stove business, until he retired in 1855. He died from the effects of a stroke of lightning, in Menard County, Ill., in March, 1871. He married Miss Sarah Vance, who became the mother of five sons and one daughter. Mrs. Hubbard survives her husband and resides with one of her sons, Thomas, in Chicago, at the age of fifty-four years. The subject of this sketch is the oldest of the family. He received his rudiment-



al education in the common schools of Chicago, and later, attended in Jacksonville, Ill., and Springfield, and graduated from the high school of the latter place. At Terre Haute, Ind., he gained a knowledge of dentistry, and in 1871 came to Virginia and opened a dental office. He had during 1869 and 1870 read medicine with Dr. J. B. Stevenson, of Springfield, and during his practice of dentistry he prosecuted his medical studies. He attended medical lectures at both the Ohio Medical College, and the Eclectic Medical School of Cincinnati, and received diplomas from those institutions, in May, 1871. May 20, 1871, he married Miss Charlotte L. Stoll, daughter of H. B. and Susan (Hall) Stoll, both natives of New Jersey. Mrs. Hubbard was the oldest of a family of six children, and was born July 25, 1848. Her father died in March, 1865, and Mrs. Stoll resides at Terre Haute, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard have two sons, Henry C. and Frank L.

HENRY F. KORS, Deputy Circuit Clerk of Cass County, Virginia City; was born at Beardstown, Cass Co., Dec. 2, 1846. H. Frederick Kors, his father, was born Sept. 25, 1804, and Maria (Heminghouse) Kors, his mother, were natives of the Kingdom of Hanover, which was formerly a portion of northwestern Germany. Mr. Kors was a plasterer by trade, which business he followed until his death, in 1865. Mrs. Kors died in 1846, leaving two children: Catharine, now Mrs. Boy, of Hickory, and our subject. He received his schooling in the public schools of Beardstown; learned the harness makers and carriage trimmers trade, which he followed for a time, and in 1868 entered the business for himself. He sold out in 1869. After making a trip to Missouri, he followed merchandising, as salesman, until December, 1876, when he was appointed Deputy Circuit Clerk of Cass County, by Thomas V. Finney, and has since that time held that position. January 12, 1869, he married

Miss Laura Finney, daughter of Thomas V. Finney, Sr., an early resident of Cass County. They have three sons: Martin L., Tad S., and Preston V. Addie and Ida, two older daughters, are deceased. Laura Davis has been a member of the family about six years. She is their niece, and a daughter of F. M. Davis, formerly of Beardstown, a farmer, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Kors are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Kors is a Democrat, and a member of the I. O. O. F., of Virginia.

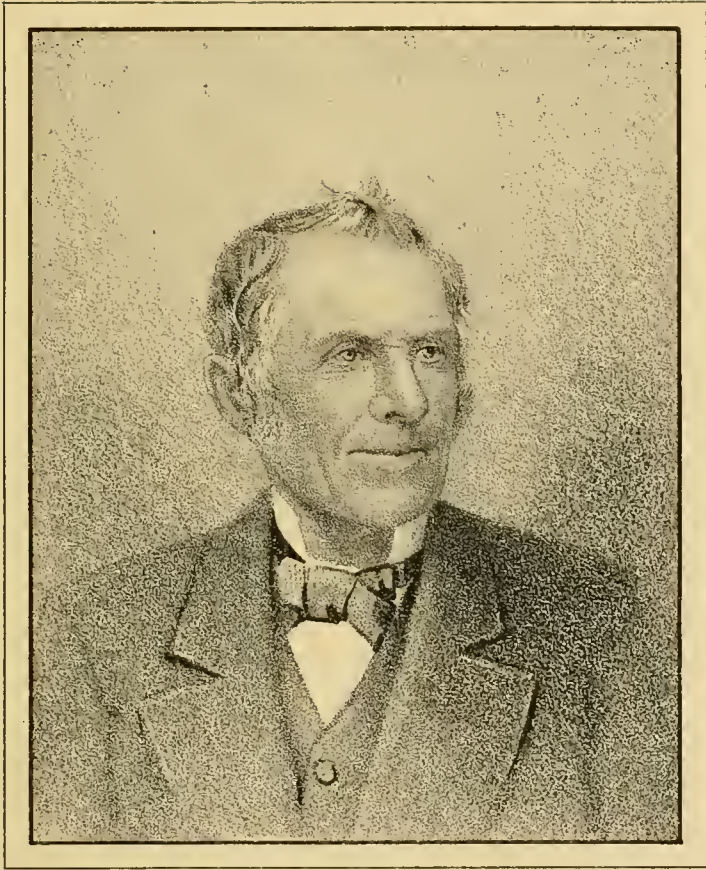
JOSEPH S. LYNCH, Virginia City, County Surveyor; is a native of Lancaster County, Penn.; was born Aug. 12, 1838, at a town of the same name. His father, James Lynch, now deceased, was of Irish descent, born in the same town; he was a merchant by occupation, and married Miss Elizabeth Schmaling, of German extraction. Joseph S. received his schooling in the schools of Lancaster, and remained at home until about eighteen years of age. In 1861 he entered the Union Army, enlisting at Freeport, Stevenson Co., Ill., in the 11th Ill. Vol. Infantry; Feb. 16, 1862, he was taken prisoner at Fort Donelson. He was held by the enemy about eight months, at Macon, Ga., and then exchanged. He immediately returned to his regiment, served in the forty days campaign before Vicksburg; July 7, 1864, he received a severe musket ball wound, in both thighs, at the battle of Jackson Crossroads, Miss., was left on the field as mortally wounded, picked up by the enemy, and was again imprisoned in a rebel hospital at Clinton, Miss., for about two months, whereupon he was again exchanged. He then reported to his regiment in Arkansas. His time having expired, he received his discharge, Sept. 12, 1864, and returned to Illinois. He soon entered farming in Stevenson County. Still suffering from the effects of his wound, he was after two years' trial obliged to abandon the farm, and in 1866 came to Cass

County, and commenced teaching school, which he continued for about five years. He then took up the profession of surveying, and has from that time on made it his principal business. He was elected to the office of Surveyor of Cass County, in 1872, and served one term, with satisfaction to the citizens of the county, and was again elected in 1879, since which time he has held the office. May 30, 1872, he married Miss Matilda J. Martin, daughter of Joel and Eliza Martin, now living in Nebraska. Mr. Lynch is a life-long Republican, and a member of the A. O. U. W., of Virginia City.

JOHN MARTIN, (deceased); was born in Pennsylvania, in 1829, and was a son of William and Mary (Anderson) Martin, the former of Irish descent, and his wife of American ancestry, so far as known. John was the oldest of their family of five sons and one daughter, and the only one that ever came West. He was a gunsmith by trade, and made it the principal occupation of his life. He left his native State and came to Ohio in 1853, located at Gilmore, Tuscarawas Co., where he married Miss Rose Ann Turner, daughter of James and Julia (Romig) Turner. James Turner is of English descent, and a native of Maryland, and Mrs. Turner is a daughter of Jacob Romig, of German descent, a native of the Keystone State, and by occupation a farmer, and a saddler by trade. Mr. and Mrs. Turner came to Illinois from Ohio in 1853, lived for a time at Decatur, in Macon County, and in 1856 came to Cass County, Hickory precinct (then Virginia), located on a farm, where they still live, surrounded with a family of grown-up children, and the comforts of a well regulated country home. Mrs. Martin was the second child of the family, and was born Feb. 7, 1835. Mr. Martin pursued his calling, in Virginia, coming directly from Ohio in 1853. In 1858 he went with his family to Paris, Edgar

County, and there followed his trade, until the breaking out of the Rebellion, in 1861, when he enlisted, in response to President Lincoln's first call for volunteers. He was enrolled from Edgar County, but the 14th Ill. Vol. Cav. being full, his entire Co. I was mustered into the first Mo. Vol. Cav. He was soon promoted from a private to first lieutenant, but died of sickness at Rolla, Mo., just before his commission reached him. The sad news of his death reached his bereaved widow, left with six fatherless little ones, all too young to fully understand the loss of their nearest and most valuable earthly friend. Mrs. Martin's experiences, for the years that have now passed, were only a repetition of what many a brave and widowed mother was in those days called upon to withstand. Left upon her own resources, she kept her little family together, afforded them every advantage within her reach, to gain an education, and a clear understanding of what was right and wrong; and her faithfulness is duly rewarded by living to see her boys all settled in life, and each prospered in his adopted calling. She died May 23, 1878, in Virginia.

J. A. MARTIN, the well known merchant tailor, of Virginia, was born May 9, 1853, in Ohio, and is the oldest living son of the family. He attended the common schools of Cass and Edgar Counties, this State, and later the Illinois College at Fulton, Whiteside Co., Ill. He learned the tailor's trade with Mr. H. W. Leach, of Bloomington, at fourteen years of age, and has from that time followed it. He engaged permanently in business in Virginia in 1876, and most of the time at his present location, No. 10, West Beardstown St. Mr. Martin conducts a first class tailoring establishment, in every respect, and always has on hand a complete stock of goods in the latest patterns. He was married March 4, 1874, to Miss Ida C. Herr, daughter of H. S. and Rebecca (Myers) Herr, of



*William Campbell*



Bloomington, Ill. They have three children: Nellie, Guy C., and Edna M. Nellie died, at two years of age, in 1877.

The second living son is JOHN S., a marble cutter, born in Cass County, this State, June 25, 1854. He received his schooling in the pioneer schools of his native county, and came to Virginia in 1876. He attended the Illinois College at Fulton, and in 1870 entered a marble shop as an apprentice; served eight years in the business, with marked success. In 1873 he visited Philadelphia, and other eastern cities, making his trip a valuable one, in observing much pertaining to his chosen profession. As a sculptor, Mr. Martin has displayed talent, having produced several very creditably wrought pieces of statuary. As a monumental designer, his ability is shown by some extensive plans of a monument to be submitted to the Garfield Monument Association, of Cleveland, Ohio. His plans contemplate an expenditure of \$250,000. Mr. Martin married Miss Alice L., daughter of William L., and Andromache B. (Naylor), Black of Virginia. GEORGE W. was the next born, his birthday being January 4, 1856, in Virginia, and is the third of the family now living. He received his education at the State Normal School, of Normal, Ill., and graduated at the Wesleyan University, from the law department, with the class of 1876, and was admitted to the bar in June of that year. He practiced his profession, in Bloomington, in company with Messrs. Straight and Coy, and continued with them until he came to Virginia, in 1877. Since that time his practice has been steadily increasing, with bright prospects for the future. He married Oct. 5, 1881, Miss Quintella D., daughter of John Sallie (deceased), formerly a farmer of Virginia. CHARLES ÆSOP, the fourth of the family, was born Nov. 4, 1857, in Virginia, Cass Co. His people, about this time moved to Edgar County, and he received his early schooling there. Later, he at-

tended the High School at Bloomington. At sixteen years of age he learned the painter's trade, and developed a taste and talent as scenic painter. He followed his trade in Bloomington, St. Louis, and other large cities, with success. He entered the law office of W. S. Coy, of Bloomington, and continued with him as a student until 1877, when he came to Virginia, taught school, and prosecuted his law studies, and was admitted to the bar at Springfield, in 1880, and since that time has practiced in Virginia. Sept. 8, 1881, he married Miss Sallie R., daughter of James M. Beadles, of Virginia. JENNIE R., is the sixth child of the family, and now Mrs. George W. Berris, of Sedalia, Mo. WILLIAM R., the youngest, was born at Paris, Edgar County, Ill., May 5, 1861. He attended school about three months in Virginia, and later, at the Soldiers' and Orphans' home at Bloomington. He learned the tailor's trade of his brother James A., and is now associated with him in business. He married Feb. 22, 1882, Miss Harriet E., daughter of James Beadles, before mentioned.

HENDERSON E. MASSEY, of Virginia Precinct, was born July 27, 1810, at Horse-shoe Bend, Culpepper Co., Old Virginia. Samuel Massey, his father, was a native of Halifax, Md., of German descent, and was a soldier in the war of 1812; served as a Captain at the battle of New Orleans, 1813, and died soon after his return home, in 1815, of fever, contracted in the service. He was married to Miss Olive, daughter of Mordecai Choplain, who was of French descent. They had a family of eight children, all of whom lived to maturity, but our subject is the only one now living, and was the sixth child. Henderson E. was raised a farmer, although his father was a school teacher, and a man of excellent education. Mr. Massey first came to Morgan County, in 1829, but remained only a short time, when

he made a trip to Wisconsin, and from that State entered the Black Hawk war, in 1832, in which he served about six months, having been attached to the Mining Battalion, and served as keeper of the peace, after the hottest of the conflict was over. He permanently settled in Illinois in 1833, near Mount Sterling, Brown Co., where he remained about four years. He then came to North Prairie, his present home, in the southern part of Virginia Precinct, near Little Indian. His first purchase of land here, was 250 acres, to which he has added, until he now owns about 800 acres. He married Miss Martha, daughter of James Marshall, an early pioneer of North Prairie, and a native of Glasgow, Scotland. He was a merchant in Scotland, and emigrated to Kentucky, where he lived until he came to Cass County. He had a family of eight children, and Mrs. Massey was the fifth. Mrs. Massey died March 29, 1874, leaving the following children: James F., Elizabeth A., Mary J., Henry C., Samuel, Henderson R., John H., Esther M., Harriet M., Bell H., George, and Emma L. Four sons are married, two are located in Cass County, one in California, and one at Litchfield, Montgomery Co. Mary is now Mrs. George Laurie, of Morgan County; Elizabeth married Mr. William Nisbet, of Cass County, and the other daughters are still at home. Mr. Massey is not a partisan in politics, but votes for the best candidate.

T. L. MATHEWS. The subject of this brief sketch is a native of the Keystone State, and was born in the town of Florence, Washington County, Penn., March 1, 1849. When quite young his parents moved to Kentucky, where the early years of his life were spent, with the exception of about three years spent in Rushville, Schuyler County, Ill. When the war broke out the family returned to the East, and there remained until the spring of 1865, when Mr. Mathews again

came West, stopping at Rushville a few months, and then located at Vermont, Fulton County, Ill. Here he started in as an apprentice and learned the trade of a carriage-builder, and became an expert workman. In the spring of 1869 he removed to Beardstown, where he pursued his trade two years, and was promoted to the position of collector and salesman for the firm that employed him. In the winter of 1872 he entered the New York Store, in that city, as a salesman. In the spring of 1873 Mr. Mathews was appointed Deputy Sheriff of Cass County, by George Volkmar, then Sheriff and Collector, and was placed in charge of the revenue department of the office. He served through Mr. Volkmar's term, and was re-appointed by Sheriff elect, William Epler. He served in this capacity about four years, with satisfaction to the citizens of Cass County, and credit to himself. In 1876, Mr. Mathews was nominated by his party as their candidate for Circuit Clerk of Cass Co.; and though receiving more than his party vote, was swept aside by the Tilden and Reform tidal wave, and failed of an election. In August, 1877, he, in company with William H. Thacker, purchased the *Virginia Gazette*. The following December Mr. Mathews bought Mr. Thacker's interest, and successfully continued the publication alone about one year. Jan. 1, 1879, he sold out to Mr. Cad. Allard, and returned to the service of his county, receiving the appointment of deputy, by James B. Black, County Clerk, and served four years in that office. In 1882, Mr. Mathews was elected member of the Board of Education of Virginia City, and upon organization of the Board, became its Secretary. At the date of writing Mr. Mathews is the Republican candidate of the Thirty-fourth Senatorial District for Representative in the State Legislature, and as a minority candidate his election is certain. Mr. Mathews was married at Beard-

town, Sept. 26, 1872, to Miss Lou. E. Thornbury, daughter of J. A. Thornbury, an early resident of Cass County. They have two children: Earl and Ruse. Florence died Aug. 17, 1880.

WILLIAM MOORE, deceased, one of the respected pioneers of Cass County, was a native of Maryland; was born March 8, 1799. He had four brothers: George, Robert, Thomas and John, and three sisters: Martha, Sarah and Nancy. In early manhood Mr. Moore was a boatman on the Ohio and the Mississippi rivers. Oct. 4, 1831, he married Miss Keziah Moore (not a relative), daughter of Isaac Moore, who was a farmer by occupation. Mrs. Moore's mother, whose maiden name was Rachael Lewis, died when she was about four years of age, and she was left to the care of an uncle and aunt, who gave her school advantages, and made for her a comfortable home. Mr. Moore first came to Cass County in 1834, and landed at Beardstown in April. He made purchase of the present Moore homestead, and moved on to it the following August. The place formerly comprised 204 acres, but parcels have been sold from it, until it now contains about 44 acres. Mr. Moore was an honest, conscientious citizen, and a thrifty farmer. He died April 26, 1865, leaving his wife surrounded by a family of thirteen children, viz.: Manilious, now Mrs. Carle Pond, of Morgan County; James N., now at home, once married, and has one son; Nancy F., now Mrs. J. A. Bond, of Menard County; Robert B., at home; Thomas S., of Washington County, Kan.; Amanda M., now Mrs. Robert McNeal, of Cass County; William A., in Montgomery County, Iowa; John I., of Cass County; Charles B.; Ulysses S., a farmer of Cass County; Lorinda A., now Mrs. George Wubker, of Virginia, Cass County; George C., died an infant, and Alma A., is at home. Mrs. Moore has now forty-three grandchildren.

R. H. MANN, photographer, Virginia City;

was born in Wilmington, Jan. 29, 1855. His father, H. T. Mann, was a carriage trimmer, and a native of London, England. Emigrated to America at about twenty-five years of age. His mother was, before marriage, Matilda Stevens, and married Mr. Mann, in London, and Robert H. was the oldest of their two sons. Our subject received his primary education in his native town, afterward attended Lockport, Ill., High School, and later in Bloomington. Mr. Mann gained his first experience as a photographer in Faribault, Minn., where he continued work for about four years. He then went to St. Paul, same State, where he made the art of re-touching a specialty for the best establishments of that city. He next came to Jacksonville, Ill., and there spent two years with A. W. Cadman, and July 29, 1879, came to Virginia, bought out C. H. Cummings, and since that time has successfully conducted the business, making for himself the reputation of producing as good work as any artist in Central or Southern Illinois. Aside from the fact that Mr. Mann is a thorough and practical artist, he has a commodious gallery, constructed especially for his business, which is well stocked with all the latest modern appliances for producing first-class work. He married Mrs. Maggie Hickox of Virginia, Feb. 28, 1882.

LACHLAN McNEILL, one of the early comers to Cass County, was born in Argyle, Scotland, Jan. 25, 1809. He received his education in Scotland, and was a shepherd and a farmer previous to coming to America, as was also his father, Charles McNeill. He left his native home to seek his fortune in a strange land, May 6, 1837; brought with him his wife, whose maiden name was Flora TAYLOR, and his first born child. They terminated their long and tedious sea voyage at Montreal, Canada, where they remained about six weeks, and there a second child was born to them. They soon proceeded on their journey

westward, and spent one year in Clark County, Ill., one year in Champaign County, and in 1839 came to Cass County and located on a farm near his present home. His faithful and devoted wife died Sept. 3, 1859, having blessed him with seven children, four of whom are now living: Robert, a farmer of Cass County, Flora, Margaret (now Mrs. Daniel Carr, of Sangamon Bottoms), and Charles. Mary, Paschal and Elizabeth are deceased. Mr. McNiell has ever been an industrious and a frugal farmer, a good and enterprising citizen, is one of the oldest living members of the Shiloh Cumberland Presbyterian Church, of Virginia Precinct, and is truly one of Cass County's pioneers.

WILLIAM T. MELONE is a son of John and Elizabeth Ann (Morrow) Melone; the former came to Virginia in 1837, and settled five miles southeast of Arenzville, then in Sangamon County, but now Cass, being in the three mile strip taken from Morgan County. John Melone was an early school teacher of Scotch descent, and came to Illinois about 1842-3. His wife was a native of Kentucky. They had eight children born to them, four of whom are still living: William T. (our subject), Jennie H., Oscar, and Lulu B. Mary C., Lucy A., Ida L., and George W., are deceased. William T., our subject, was born November 24, 1844, in Cass County, and educated in the schools of his neighborhood. Farming has been his business. He was married February 2, 1876, to Lucy A. Conover, a daughter of John and Nancy (Bennett) Conover. (See sketch.) She was the ninth child, and one of twins. Have three children: Edgar, born Feb. 7, 1877; Nettie, born March 22, 1879; and Mary L., born Nov. 21, 1880. Mr. Melone is a resident of Virginia since December, 1871; a member of the Methodist Church, and Mrs. Melone of the Christian Church.

RICHARD W. MILLS, attorney-at-law, Virginia; was born Aug. 3, 1845, in Morgan

County, Ill. His father, Chesley Mills, a native of North Carolina, was a mason and builder by trade, and came to Illinois in the year 1813, with his father, Charles Mills, who was a farmer by occupation, a native, and in early days, a slave holder of the above named State. He located at Hannibal, Mo., where he died. Chesley learned his trade in St. Louis, and followed it in Edwardsville, Jacksonville, Quincy, and finally located at Lynnville, Morgan Co. He married Miss Harriet, daughter of Dr. George Cadwell, and granddaughter of General Mathew Lyon. Chesley Mills had three sons and two daughters. All are living, and but two, beside our subject, are residents of Illinois. Thomas is a miner, of Wyoming Territory; George a stock broker, of San Francisco, Cal.; Emily, now Mrs. T. W. Jones, of Wilmington, Ill.; Maria is now widow Demorest, and lives with her mother, in Morgan County. Our subject, the youngest, attended the public schools of Jacksonville, and later, the Illinois College. He studied law with Judge Epler, of that city, and was admitted to the bar of the State, at Springfield, in 1870. He came to Virginia in January, 1871, having formed a partnership with Mr. Epler, his former law tutor. Their partnership lasted until January, 1873, when Mr. Epler was elected to the bench of Morgan County. Mr. Mills married Feb. 4, 1873, to Miss Matilda, daughter of Dr. Harvey Tate, one of the oldest and most respected physicians of Cass County. A sketch of Dr. Tate may be seen elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Mills served as Master in Chancery, during the years of 1874 to 1880, City Attorney of Virginia, 1872-'3, also in 1881 and 1882. He is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and K. of H. Mr. Mills enlisted at fifteen years of age, in Company B, Tenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for three months; but was not accepted, on account of age and size. He made



a second trial in Chicago the following month of May, and passed muster for three years, in Company F. Nineteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Participated in battles of Stone River, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, and was mustered out July 11, 1864.

WILLIAM I. MITCHELL, one of the most energetic and enterprising farmers of Ashland Precinct, is a native of Cass County, and was born in the above Precinct, March 6, 1848. His father, Washington A. Mitchell, of whom a sketch appears in this volume, is a native of Kentucky, and married Miss Rebecca W. Crow, daughter of William Crow, an early pioneer of Cass County, and they had five sons and two daughters; of these our subject is the second oldest. He received his schooling in the common schools of his native precinct, and later, attended the Wesleyan University, at Bloomington. He taught school in southern Cass County, and some in Morgan, for about seven years, doing farming between school terms. He purchased a farm in Ashland Precinct, but sold it in 1878. He married, on Oct. 21, 1879, to Miss Reasia A. Skiles, daughter of Ignatius Skiles, deceased, of whom a sketch and full page portrait appears in this volume. They have one daughter, Mabel S., born Aug. 1, 1880. Mr. Mitchell is extensively engaged in farming and stock raising, on a portion of the Skiles estate, comprising about 640 acres of valuable land, lying about two and one-half miles east of Virginia.

EDWARD T. OLIVER, banker, Virginia; was born in the city of Virginia, Cass County, April 23, 1849. His father, Charles Oliver, was one of the pioneers of Cass County, and in the year 1835, in company with Dr. Hall, came to Virginia. Dr. Hall was one of the first merchants of Virginia, and Charles Oliver was for a time his clerk, and in time following entered the mercantile business for himself, in which he continued with success until his

death, which occurred Sept. 5, 1877, he at that time being sixty-three years of age. He married Lydia Ann Job, second child of Archibald and Jane (Brierly) Job, one of the earliest settlers of Southern Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver had five sons and one daughter, viz.: William A., Charles R., Morrison J., Rudolph B., Edward T., and Harriet, deceased at two years of age. Thus it will be seen, that Edward T. was the fifth son. He received a thorough common school education, and gained a thorough and practical business experience while in the employ of his father as salesman in his store. In 1866 he entered the Farmer's National Bank, as a book-keeper. In 1872, the management of this house practically had a change, and as Mr. Oliver's position in the concern was wanted by another, he was retired. His ability as a rising young business man was very generally recognized in business circles, and his talents found a ready market, as he was immediately called to assume a more responsible position in the well known banking firm of Petefish, Skiles & Co. Since his connection with this institution, he has been the cashier, and a partner in the business. Oct. 20, 1870, Mr. Oliver married Miss Maggie S. Vance, daughter of Samuel S. and Martha (Stevenson) Vance. Mr. Vance was one of the old settlers of Morgan County. He died in 1868. They have had four children, viz.: Edward C., Bertha L., George W., and Rena, who died in 1873, when three months old. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver are, since 1874, members of the Presbyterian Church of Virginia. Mr. Oliver is regarded as one of the most substantial and enterprising business men of his city; is alive to any and all business enterprises tending to the prosperity of his town, or the general public good. He was active as a member of the City Council, when it authorized the building of their present commodious court-house, and afterward became a member of the Build-

ing Committee. A sketch of the banking house of Petefish, Skiles & Co., with which Mr. Oliver is connected, appears elsewhere in this volume.

**SAMUEL H. PETEFISH**, banker. Very few of the present citizens of Cass County have been and are more closely identified with the business interests of their prosperous little city, than has been and is the subject of this sketch. Mr. Petefish came to Cass County at a time when men of pith and energy were most needed to develop its unseen resources, and establish its growth upon the foundations of solid business principles; and the success of this work, done by the pioneers of his and earlier days, stands out in bold relief as a monument to their industry and perseverance. Mr. Petefish's parents were natives of Old Virginia. They emigrated from that State and settled in Morgan County in 1835, upon the three-mile strip, finally attached to Cass County and about five miles south of the present location of the city of Virginia. His father, Jacob, died in 1849, on the homestead, and his mother was formerly Elizabeth Price. They raised a family of ten children, six sons and four daughters: William, Jacob, Samuel H., John A., Andrew J., and Thomas B. Besides our subject, Jacob and John are residents of Cass County; William and Thomas reside in Douglas County, Kan.; Andrew fell a soldier in the late war. Mrs. Sarah (Robert) Maxfield is the only surviving daughter. She and her husband reside in Macoupin County, in which locality died her sister, Mrs. Ellen (Joseph) Crum. Mrs. Dinah (Rev. Daniel) Short died in Sangamon County. Christian Petefish, our subject's grandfather, came to this country as a Hessian soldier. He deserted the English army soon after the battle of Princeton, and joining the patriot forces, fought nobly for the independence of America. He settled in Old Virginia after the close of the

conflict, where he raised a family of children, viz.: John, Christian, George, Jacob, and Mrs. Catharine Chamberlain, who now lives in Nebraska. March 18, 1848, Mr. Petefish married Miss Nancy M., daughter of Peter and Melinda (Huffman) Hudson. Mrs. Petefish is a native of the State of Virginia. Her father removed from that State to Kentucky, and then to Cass County, in the year 1827, living in township seventeen, range eleven, on section fourteen. He was twice married, Melinda being his first wife, who left him two sons and three daughters. Mrs. Petefish was the elder, and was born May 2, 1827, soon after her parents arrived in Cass County. With the exception of five years spent in McDonough County, he lived in Cass County. Mrs. Hudson died in June, 1853, and in 1855 Mr. Hudson married Mrs. Mathias. Mr. and Mrs. Petefish have been blessed with eight children, of whom three only are living: Miss Mary E., married Joseph Chamberlain, Louis, and Miss Ada L. Mr. Chamberlain died in Missouri about 1870, and Mrs. Chamberlain is living with her parents. Henry T., a lad about twelve years of age, was lost during the burning of the steamer Ocean Spray, which sad catastrophe occurred on the Mississippi river, about five miles above St. Louis. Mr. Petefish is known through Central Illinois as being one of the most enterprising and successful business men of Cass County, and at the head of three successful banking houses, sketches of which appear elsewhere in this work, and also a full page portrait of our subject.

**JACOB PETEFISH** was born in Rockingham County, Va., and came with his father and family into the present limits of Cass County in 1835. A settlement was made in Tp. 17 north, range 10 west, where his parents continued to reside until taken away by death. His father departed this life in 1849, and his mother in 1853. They were

members of the Lutheran Church, and had the reputation of being devout Christian people. They raised the following family: Mrs. Mary (Reuben) Faltz, and William (twins), Dinah, Mrs. (Rev. Daniel) Short, Elizabeth, Mrs. Sarah (Robert) Maxfield, and Mrs. Helen (Joseph) Crum, Jacob, Samuel H., and John A. Of these, Andrew was in the Union service during the late rebellion, and was mortally wounded at the battle of Look Out Mountain. Thomas, the youngest, resided in Kansas. In May, 1855, our subject married Miss Nancy C., daughter of Benjamin and Margaret Strickler, of Rockingham, County, Va., by whom he had the following children: Benjamin S., Berryman S., Edward E., Joseph H., Andrew J., Marcellus C., Nellie, Frank, and Lizzie L. Mr. Petefish's paternal grandfather, Christian, was one of the Hessians, hired, or rather sold, into the English service against the Infant Colonies, confederated against British oppression. True to the native instincts of a noble manhood, he deserted the English army and espoused the cause of patriotism. After the close of the war, he settled in Virginia, where he died. In this State his son Jacob, father of our subject, was born and resided, and there married Miss Elizabeth Price, the mother of the children previously mentioned. Mr. Petefish, when about of age, purchased on his own responsibility, about 200 acres of land and commenced farming. With industry and perseverance he has added to his estate until he now owns about 600 acres of finely improved land, which includes his father's old homestead. It may justly be said of Mr. Petefish and his family, that they form one of the honest and trustworthy elements of Cass County. Mr. Petefish, besides being a successful agriculturist, has done something in the way of grazing and stock feeding.

ADAM PRICE (deceased), one of the first settlers of Cass County, was a son of Adam

and Elizabeth (Miller) Price, and was born in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, in Rockingham County, in August, 1803. Here he lived until about thirty-two years of age. In 1833 he married Miss Susan Rosenberger, and came to Cass County the same year. He was the first emigrant, direct to Cass County, from the Old Dominion State. He first located in Morgan County, near Arcadia, and remained there until his removal to Virginia Precinct, in 1853, settling on section 28. He raised a family of three sons and four daughters; five of his offspring having died in infancy. Of these, William T., and Adam C., are still residents of Cass County. William T. was born Nov. 6, 1839. In 1861, he entered the Union army, and was mustered in at Springfield, and assigned to the 114th Ill. Vol. Infantry Co. D. The regiment did valiant service in the department of the lower Mississippi, and was engaged in several lively battles, including the forty days' campaign before Vicksburg. Mr. Price was taken prisoner at Grand Tower, Miss., June 10, 1864, and confined at Andersonville, Millen, and Florence prisons, for about eight months, and finally paroled in February, 1865. He was then furloughed for thirty days, reported again to his regiment, and received his discharge at the expiration of his term of enlistment, Aug. 13, 1865. Mr. Price was married Dec. 29, 1860, to Miss Rachel Augusta Marshall, daughter of William Marshall (deceased). Mr. Marshall was also one of the early pioneers of Cass County, and located and owned at one time a large landed estate, a portion of which Mr. Price now owns and lives upon. James Marshall, Sen., and father of William Marshall, came to Cass County as early as 1825, from Kentucky, and was a native of Woodford County. Mrs. Price is the eldest of her father's family; Miss Jennie M. was next, and Louise W. (deceased 1863), was the third. William T. Price is an active, industrious, and successful farmer, as

is his next younger brother, Adam C. Price, who was born in May 16, 1844, in Morgan County. He was the third child of the family, attended the common schools of Cass, and commenced farming for himself at twenty years of age. He married Miss Ruth Bacon, daughter of Ira Bacon, a farmer of Arcadia, Morgan Co., in November, 1864. Mr. Bacon is a native of Connecticut, married Ann Christie, a native of the Empire State. Mrs. Price is the oldest of the family of eight children. Mr. and Mrs. Adam Price have eleven children, as follows: Ann, Thomas, Edwin, Harry, Minnie, Della, Adam, Frederick, Bertie, Archie, and Mary.

WILLIAM B. PAYNE, the leading dry-goods merchant of Virginia, was born at Nicholasville, in Jessamine Co., Ky., August 24, 1824. His father, Flemming Payne, was a native of the same State, Todd County, Green River Country; was a tailor by trade, and made it the occupation of his life. He married Miss Susan Hightower, daughter of Captain Richard Hightower, a native of Old Virginia, a farmer and hotel-keeper. Flemming Payne's father was Charles Payne, who raised a family of eleven, the youngest of which lived to be thirty years of age, and the oldest ninety-three, and two are still living at an advanced age. They all settled in Kentucky, but the two now living are residents of Missouri. Flemming was the seventh of the family, and raised two sons and one daughter. Charles F. (deceased 1860) was a farmer of Cass County, Mo.; Miranda H. is now widow of Charles F. Lowery, a merchant of Lexington, later Circuit Clerk of Fayette County. She still resides there at fifty-five years of age. William, our subject, attended school at Nicholasville, and left home at sixteen years of age. He clerked in a store for a time in his native town, and then went to Lexington and clerked about five years. At twenty-three years of age he entered the dry-goods

business at Oxford, Scott County, Ky. In 1853 he went to Cass County, Mo., and followed farming successfully for about eight years. He came to Virginia, Cass Co., in 1864, and re-entered the mercantile business, and has since that time continued in trade. Mr. Page has spent about thirty years as a merchant, and eighteen years in Virginia. He was married February 24, 1848, to Miss Hannah E. Allender, daughter of Edward Allender, of Lexington, Ky. They have nine children living: Sue, now Mrs. Finis E. Downing, present Circuit Clerk of Cass County; Charles F., a merchant of Ashland, Cass Co., this State; Miranda H., wife of A. M. Thompson, farmer, Cass County; Henrietta, B., or Mrs. D. M. Crum, farmer, of this county; Wm. G., who married Miss Eva L. Black, of Virginia; Richard H., James S., Eva L., and John S. are still at home. Mr. and Mrs. Payne are members of the Methodist Church, and Mr. Payne is a member of the I. O. O. F., of 36 years' standing.

HENRY QUIGG, of Virginia Precinct, a native of Wilmington, Delaware; was born May 22, 1827. His father, William Quigg, was a native of Ireland, and emigrated to America in the year 1822, and brought with him his wife and one child. Mrs. Quigg was also born in Ireland, and her maiden name was Sarah Rogers. William Quigg was by occupation a contractor, and did quite a successful business in this country, especially in the East. In 1832, he superintended the construction of Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C., the famous street, one mile in length, that connects the United States Capitol building with the White House. This was in its day a very important job, as was all the work that pertained to the permanent laying out of our Nation's Capital. Mr. Quigg afterward became a contractor on the Baltimore and Ohio R. R., and in 1834 came to Cass County. He brought with him his family,

including wife and one son, our subject. A second son, Mathew, was born to him after his arrival here, who is now a wholesale merchant of Atchison, Kansas. Mr. Quigg was a prosperous and thrifty farmer, and a shrewd business man. He died in 1867, his wife having preceded him to the land of eternal rest about ten years. Henry Quigg, our subject, received his schooling almost entirely in Cass County, attending at last in Beardstown. He commenced farming for himself in the year 1852, on the old homestead, and removed on to his present place in April, 1856. February 22, 1852, he married Miss Margaret Cotney, daughter of Thomas Cotney, of Kent County, Mich., who was of Irish nativity. This union has been blessed with seven children, five sons and two daughters. James F., a farmer of Virginia Precinct, who married Catharine Treadway, William, Thomas John M., Henry C., Steven A., Sarah A., and Annie. Mr. and Mrs. Quigg are members of the Catholic Church of Virginia.

JUDGE J. W. REARICK, Judge elect, of Cass County; was born in Prussia, on March 17, 1833, and is the fifth of seven children. In 1837, his father emigrated with his family from Prussia to this country, settling first in Franklin County, Pa. Here he engaged in work at his trade, that of a tinner. About the year 1856, he came West in quest of a location, and fixed upon Beardstown, Ill., as his future home, to which town he soon removed. Here he commenced work at his trade, which he prosecuted with success, until his death, which occurred in 1868. He was known as a workman of more than ordinary skill, a substantial and fair minded citizen. It is scarcely necessary to add, that the father was careful that his sons each acquired a trade, to the end that they might be more useful men, and independent citizens. Jacob W. accordingly received instructions in tin-smithing of his father. He also ac-

quired a fair schooling. He preceded his father to Beardstown, having located there in 1854, and commenced work as a tinner with his brother, Francis H., who was at that time established in business there. With the latter Jacob W. soon formed a partnership, which lasted for nineteen years. During this time he also formed a partnership with another brother, Frederick, and the firm erected, and for about five years conducted, a steam flour mill. Mr. Rearick at the same time continuing with Francis H., in this business, which had merged into a general hardware and agricultural implement trade. Judge Rearick was married April 29, 1862, to Miss Elizabeth Kuhl, daughter of George Kuhl, of Beardstown. Mrs. Rearick died April 17, 1863, leaving an infant son, George Francis. Judge Rearick again married on April 3, 1866, to Miss Amanda, daughter of William L. Sargent, Esq., of Morgan County. By this union they have eight children, all of whom are living, viz.: Elsie, Ann, Lydia, John H., Susan A., Frederic, Elizabeth and Jennie. In November, 1877, Judge Rearick was elected to the Judgeship of Cass County, and since that time has filled the responsible position with entire satisfaction to the citizens of the county. His re-nomination was strongly urged by many of his friends, but the demands of business and other duties made upon his time, was his excuse for declining further honors, and at the expiration of his present term of office he intends to retire from politics. The success of Judge Rearick in rising from comparative obscurity to the prominent position he now occupies as a citizen, standing at the head of the public affairs of his county, is worthy of note, as showing what uprightness, and increasing energy, worked with a purpose, will accomplish in our country of free thought, free speech, and free institutions.

GEORGE W. RAWLINGS, farmer, P. O.

Virginia; Mr. Rawlings was born Dec. 22, 1834, in Cecil County, Maryland, and is the oldest son, and third child of Greenberry Rawlings and Elizabeth Dobler Rawlings, who raised a family of four sons and three daughters, having lost one son and one daughter. Greenberry Rawlings was also a native of Maryland, and a hatter by trade, which occupation he followed until 1837, the year that he came West, and located about four miles west of Virginia in Cass County. He was of Scotch and English extraction, a thrifty and enterprising citizen, and a most successful farmer, which business he followed until his death, in 1864. His family all located in Cass County, except one son in Kansas, and a daughter in Jacksonville, Morgan County. Our subject received his schooling in the common schools of Cass County; was brought up a farmer; has been engaged in that occupation and stock feeding up to the present time. Nov. 18, 1860, he married Miss Martha E. Robertson, daughter of Charles Robertson, an early resident of Cass and Morgan Counties. She was born Feb. 18, 1844, and was the fifth of a family of ten children. Mr. and Mrs. Rawlings have had nine children, seven of whom are living, viz.: Charles W., Franklin E., Greenberry A., William E., George E., John T., Samuel J., Harry, and Mary C. George died at four years of age, and Harry at the age of three. Mr. Rawlings was a life-long Republican; voted first for John C. Fremont. He cast the first Republican vote in his precinct, and at a time when there were but two Republican voters in his voting precinct. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge, and of the A. O. U. W. of Virginia.

OSWELL SKILES, one of the substantial citizens of Cass County and most enterprising business men of Virginia; was born Oct. 18, 1828. He is son of Harmon and Polly (Thompson) Skiles, who was twice mar-

ried. Polly was his first wife, and was mother of Ignatius, and died leaving Oswell an infant. They were natives of the State of Pennsylvania, Ross Co., where their children were both born; Mr. Skiles was a farmer, in humble circumstances. Our subject, incident to the death of his mother, was adopted by one George Smith, a farmer of Ross County, and he soon removed to Washington County. Here Oswell grew up, and was the youngest in a family of ten children. He worked three years in a harness shop, learned the trade, and in the fall of 1851 came to Cass County and worked for an uncle, Oswell Thompson, near Arenzville, about one year. In 1853 he made an overland trip to California. There he worked for a farmer one year in the Sacramento Valley, and up to 1861 followed mining. He saved about one thousand dollars, returned home, and entered stock dealing with his brother, Ignatius, doing a shipping business. This he followed with marked success until the year 1870, and since that time he has been engaged in farming and banking. Mr. Skiles married Miss Anna Conover, daughter of Levi Conover (deceased). She died March 31, 1877, leaving one son, Lee Harmon. In 1879 he was married to Miss Eliza Epler, daughter of George Epler, of Sangamon County. Mr. Skiles is a member of the well known banking house of Petefish, Skiles and Co., Virginia; Skiles, Rearick & Co., of Ashland, and also of Petefish, Skiles, Mertz & Co., of Chandlerville; is a member of the Building Association of Virginia, the A. O. U. W., I. O. O. F., and he and Mrs. Skiles are members of the Presbyterian Church.

IGNATIUS SKILES, deceased, whose portrait appears in this volume, was born in Ohio, August 10, 1827, and was a son of Harmon and Mary (Thompson) Skiles, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania and the latter in Ohio. The elder Skiles followed

farming, and died in Ohio. Our subject left home when a small boy, and came to Indiana, where he lived with a man named Kirkpatrick, until he was twenty-one years old, receiving as compensation, when he became of age, a good suit of clothes, a pony, and forty dollars in money. With this he came to Cass County, Ills., in 1848, and commenced the battle of life on his own account. He was a man of but little education; leaving home early in life, as he did, deprived him of opportunities to attend school, and he was compelled to make his way with what little knowledge he could pick up at odd times. Upon his arrival in Cass County he began farming and stock-dealing, a business he followed successfully, becoming one of the largest stock-dealers in the county, and amassing considerable wealth. At the time of his death he was the largest stockholder in the banking house of Petefish, Skiles & Co., a bank which is still in existence. He married Mary J. Thompson, in 1852, a daughter of Oswell and Elizabeth (Henderson) Thompson, natives of Ohio, but who came to Cass County in an early day; he was a farmer, and died in 1864, at the age of fifty-six years; his wife is now living in the City of Virginia, at the age of sixty-seven years. Both were members of the Protestant Methodist Church. He took an active part in the Mormon war at Nauvoo, Ills. Mr. and Mrs. Skiles had five children born to them, three of whom are living, viz.: Ressie A., wife of Wm. T. Mitchell; Hattie L., and Jessie E.; two died in infancy. Mr. Skiles died in 1873, and his widow afterward married Mr. Joseph F. Black, whose sketch appears in another page of this work.

I. M. STRIBLING, farmer, P. O., Virginia; was one of the oldest citizens and foremost agriculturists of Cass County; is a native of Logan County, Ky., and was born January 13, 1821. His parents, Benja-

min and Nancy (Washburn) Stribling, emigrated from Logan County to Morgan County, Ill., in the fall of 1827, and located near Litterberry. Benjamin Stribling was a native of old Stafford County, Va., and was born Feb. 11, 1797, and his parents moved from there to Kentucky about the year 1803. He remained in Morgan County until 1830, when he removed to near the present location of the City of Virginia, and until his death, which occurred June 25, 1880, he was a permanent citizen of Cass County. He was a man of his day; always identified himself with every movement set on foot for the advancement of education and the rights or the interests of his State and county, or the public good. He will long be remembered as one of the stalwart pioneers of Cass County. Isaac M. is the second of a family of three sons; besides our subject, his brother, B. Franklin, jr., now deceased, located in Cass County, and his younger brother, Thomas, lives in Iowa. He resided with his parents until of age. Sept. 12, 1842, he married Miss Margaret Beggs, whose parents, Charles and Mary (Rudell) Beggs, were also early settlers on Jersey Prairie. By this union they had five children, two sons and three daughters. At the time of their marriage Mr. Stribling's father made him sole owner of about two hundred acres of land. This property he set about improving. He also engaged in stock dealing in a small way, and very successfully, and this business grew in proportion until he became one of the most extensive feeders and dealers in his county, raising all the produce required in his extensive business, and also a large quantity for the market. On Sept. 26, 1856, Mr. Stribling was made to mourn the loss of a faithful and devoted wife, and his family a loving mother.

CHARLES W. SAVAGE, Virginia; was born Jan. 12, 1853, at the Savage homestead, in Virginia Precinct, Cass Co. His father, Henry S. Savage, was a native of Morgan

County, and was born April 22, 1824, in Jacksonville Precinct, and his father, John Savage, was one of the first pioneers of Morgan, having come to the county in 1823, where he became a successful farmer, an occupation that he followed during his life. He was a native of New York, and married Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Guy Smith, Esq. John Savage was son of James Savage, who was an Irishman, and came to America during the American Revolution as a British soldier, fought under Burgoyne, and was taken prisoner by the American troops at Ticonderoga. He was paroled, and upon becoming convinced of the injustice of the war against the Americans, he fought on the American side. Henry S. Savage was the fourth child, and third son of John Savage, and was born April 22, 1824, at Diamond Grove, three miles southwest of Jacksonville. He married Miss Sarah F. Ward, daughter of Jacob Ward, deceased. Mr. Savage was a thrifty farmer, and one of the most energetic and enterprising business men of his day in Cass County. He met death by injuries received from an unmanageable colt, March 29, 1865. He left a family of four sons and one daughter. Three sons, our subject, C. W., Edward E., and Louis L., are residents of Cass County. Ella B. and Henry S. are living with their mother, in Jacksonville. Mr. Savage left a valuable estate. Charles W. received his schooling first in Cass County, and later, in the Illinois College, at Jacksonville. He entered farming on the homestead in Virginia Precinct, in 1879. In 1881, he entered the lumber and grain business, in company with J. B. Stevenson. He was married on Jan. 6, 1875, to Miss Kitty Kelly, of Davenport, Iowa, daughter of Moses Kelly, a native of Massachusetts, for twenty-five years a resident of that place, and is now retired. Mr. and Mrs. Savage have three daughters, viz.: Anna L., Bertha M., and Hattie L. Mr. Savage is a member of the I. O. O. F., and the A. O. U. W., of Virginia.

J. B. STEVENSON, grain and lumber merchant, Virginia, Cass Co.; was born July 11, 1847, at Little Indian, Princeton Precinct. He is the sixth of the family of William and Frances (Berry) Stevenson, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this work. Joseph B., after attending the schools of his district, took a course of study at the then Cumberland Presbyterian College at Virginia. He married, April 17, 1870, Miss Dora Vandemeter, daughter of Fentonville Vandemeter, then a farmer of Cass County, now a resident of Springfield. Mrs. Stevenson was born April 11, 1849, in Cass County. Mr. and Mrs. Vandemeter are both natives of Kentucky, and came to Illinois at an early date. They raised a family of ten children, and Mrs. S. was the seventh child. Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson have one child, Mary F. Mr. S. has been associated in business with Mr. C. W. Savage, since the fall of 1880, and is also a partner with his father in the grain trade, at Little Indian.

ADOLPH H. SIELSCHOTT, sheriff elect, of Cass County, was born in the Kingdom of Hanover, on June 3, 1835. In 1854 he came to this country. He first did farm labor for about two years in the vicinity of Beardstown, after which he learned the carpenter trade. He followed his trade until 1862, when he engaged in merchandising until 1870. In 1868, he, in company with Robert Schmoldt, purchased a saw mill, located in the upper part of the City of Beardstown, which business the firm conducted with success until 1875. In the year 1876, Mr. Sielschott was elected to the office of Sheriff of Cass County, and has acceptably filled this responsible office since that time. During the years 1871 to 1874, Mr. Seilschott filled the office of Mayor of Beardstown, with the entire approval of the citizens of that prosperous and enterprising city. In 1862, Mr. Sielschott married Miss Ellen Peeper, a native



of Hanover, who emigrated to this country with her parents when quite young. They have three children: Adolph F., Alice A., and Martha M.

**EDWARD W. TURNER**, deceased. Edward W. Turner was a native of Bourbon County, Ky.—a wagon maker by trade, which business he followed for many years of his early manhood. His father was one of the pioneers of Kentucky. Our subject left his native State, came to Illinois in 1825, and became one of the prosperous pioneers of Cass County. He was energetic, thrifty, and public-spirited. He represented his county in the State Legislature of 1846 and 1848. He made farming his business after coming to Illinois, but erected and run a wagon shop for a time upon his farm, near Virginia, soon after locating. He married in Fayette County, Ky., Miss America Morrow. Her father's farm joined the Ashland home of the lamented Henry Clay, near Lexington. They raised a family of eight children, all living to mature years but one, Thomas B. Sarah, the oldest, is now deceased; lived to marry W. W. Ward, a farmer of Cass County; Elizabeth J., is now Mrs. B. G. Troutman, of Cass County; James E. is a merchant of Virginia; John W., a farmer of Oregon Precinct; William A., a farmer in Kansas; David S., R. R. Express Messenger; Henry H., Express Agent, Virginia; and Charles is out of business. James E. was born Dec. 13, 1842, and has for several years been engaged in the mercantile business in Virginia, and is at present; has one of the most extensive furniture stores in Cass County. He married, Feb. 25, 1862, Miss Henrietta Conover, daughter of John Conover, of whom see extended mention elsewhere in this volume. They have five children: Anna L., Linna M., Katie, James A., and Fred. They are both members of the Christian Church, and Mr. Turner is member of the A. O. U. W. and I. O. M. A. William

A., a farmer in Kansas, furnishes us the following data: He was born 1845, in the month of August, on the Turner homestead, in Cass County. He commenced business as a farmer in Princeton Precinct, and later, farmed at Walnut Grove. He built and run the only plaining mill ever run in Virginia, in 1870. The venture was not a success, however, and he closed out the business and returned to farming on the old Downing farm, which he sold and went to Wichita, Kansas, in 1876. He married March 6, 1866, Mira Berry, daughter of William M. Berry, a farmer of Morgan County. They have three children, Nellie, Nina, and David. H. H. Turner, the sixth son, was born Nov. 22, 1850, in Cass County. He attended the Kentucky University at Lexington, during 1868-9, and afterward engaged in the dry goods business in Virginia, and later, the grocery trade, having at times been associated with W. W. Early, Bowman Craft, and M. J. Oliver. He abandoned the mercantile business in 1874, and since that time has been acting as agent for the American and United States Express Companies, and also engaged in insurance business. He married Dec. 3, 1871, Miss Alice R. Buckley, daughter of Mark Buckley, a pioneer of Cass County. They have three children: Olive, Coral, and Ralph. Mr. Turner is a member of the I. O. O. F., Saxon Lodge, No. 68.

**H. C. THOMPSON** was born Aug. 6, 1848, in Virginia, Cass County, and is the third son of N. B. Thompson, now of St. Louis, Mo., and for many years one of the foremost and successful business men of Cass County. He first came to Virginia as Clerk and Recorder of Cass County, upon the first removal of the county seat from Beardstown, and was the first Clerk of the county, receiving his appointment from Judge Jesse B. Thomas, the first County Judge. He commenced merchandising in Virginia and continued until

the year 1867, when he removed to St. Louis, where he lives in retirement. He was married March 30, 1837, to Miss Louise Dutch, daughter of Israel J. Dutch, of Morgan County. He was a native of Massachusetts; married Miss Caroline C. Thorington, of New York City. He is of French descent, and Mrs. Dutch of English. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have raised a large family, all of whom are still living in independence, being successful in their several undertakings, and, as will be seen from the following, are filling honorable positions, both of a business and professional nature. Louise A., wife of Abram Bergen, a prosperous lawyer, of the State of Kansas; Josephine married John Anderson, a farmer of Saint Clair County, of this State; Eliza, wife of Mr. G. Polland, an able attorney of St. Louis, Mo.; the Honorable W. B. Thompson is also an attorney of Saint Louis, Mo., and represented the Twenty-eighth Senatorial district of that State in the Forty-sixth General Assembly; L. C. Thompson is a merchant of Mount Vernon, Jefferson County, Ill.; Harry C., our subject, is a thrifty farmer and a stock-dealer, of Cass County; he married Miss Lila Hall, daughter of Robert Hall, one of the wealthiest and extensive agriculturists of Cass County, of whom see sketch in another chapter of this work; Harry C. is an enterprising, public spirited and go-ahead man of business, and quick to see the business bent of a transaction. Mr. Thompson is the oldest of his father's family, and was born Oct. 14, 1861; Mary, wife of Mr. J. A. Johnston, head salesman for Mermod, Jaccard & Co., No. 4 Locust St., St. Louis; Frank P. is a resident of Cass County, Mo.; George D. is a physician and surgeon at the Marine Hospital, St. Louis; and Ella B. is at home with her parents, in St. Louis. The Thompson property interests in Cass County and Virginia are large, and as yet have not been divided.

THOMAS WILSON, of Virginia, was born April 15, 1816, in Lancashire, England. His father, David Wilson, raised a family of ten children, and Thomas was the second youngest of the family. He married Margaret Coates, before he left his native land, in the year 1837, and in 1841 they emigrated to the New World, in company with two sisters, Hannah and Sarah. Mrs. Wilson, also a native of England, was born about July 18, 1817, and lived until Oct. 18, 1880, being sixty-three years of age, at the time of her death. She left six sons and one daughter to mourn her loss: James, born Dec. 19, 1839; David, born Aug. 2, 1842; Joseph, born May 3, 1844; Sarah J. (deceased), born Aug. 24, 1846, died Nov. 3, 1865, at nineteen years of age; William R., born April 18, 1849; John T., born July 3, 1851; Charles, born Aug. 13, 1853; and Mary E., born May 20, 1857. The subject of this sketch first settled near the Sangamon Bottoms, about seven miles northwest of Virginia, in Virginia Precinct, and farmed with success until 1861, when he removed to Virginia and retired. He has invested a liberal capital in city real estate, and is one of the public spirited and substantial citizens of the town, and a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Of his family, Joseph, John, Charles, and the only living daughter, Mary (who is at home), live in Cass County; David is in Kansas; James is in Missouri; William is in Menard County, this State. They are all farmers but Joseph, who is a tinner by trade; he has for several years been a successful merchant in Virginia, in company at different times with D. N. Walker, and A. G. Angier. He received his schooling at Sugar Grove, Cass Co., and learned his trade at nineteen years of age. He has been a successful business man, and has some of his present means invested in Cass County farming lands. May 26, 1872, he married Miss Nancy R. Berry, daughter of James and

Sinah (Roe) Berry, deceased, formerly of Virginia Precinct. They have three children, viz.: Anna L., Frank H., and Alice. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are both members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He is a Democrat, and a member of the A. O. U. W., and I. O. O. F., and Secretary of the Virginia Lodge.

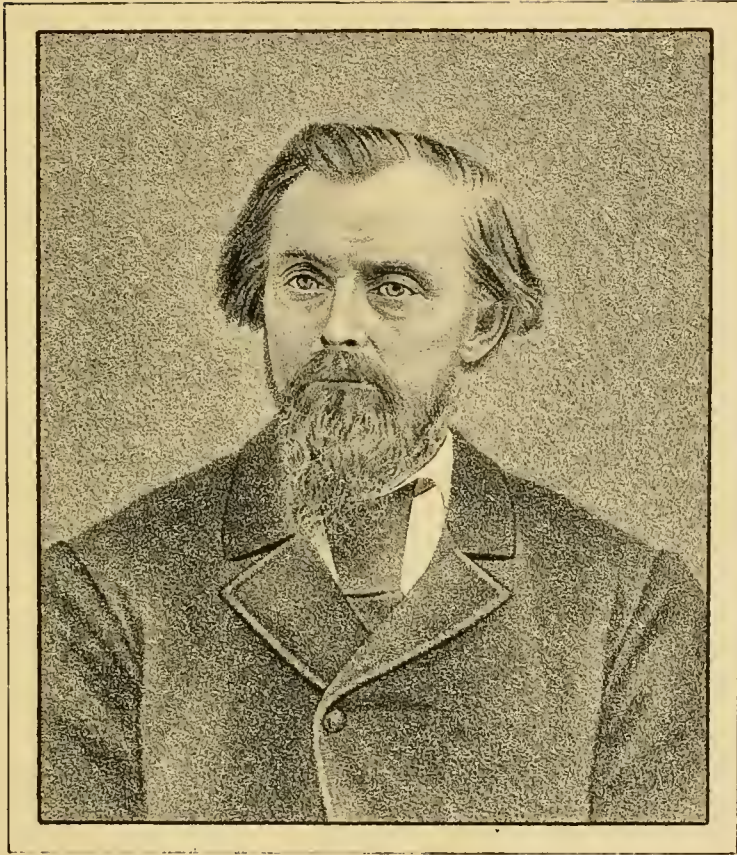
D. N. WALKER, Police Magistrate of the city of Virginia, was born in Fauquier County, State of Virginia. His father, Solomon Walker, is also a Virginian by birth, and a farmer by occupation. He married Miss Emma Wilkins, a native of Virginia, and daughter of Thomas Wilkins, a Virginia farmer. Mr. Walker (our subject) is the third son of a family of seven sons and two daughters, and was educated in the common schools of his native State, and was brought up a farmer. He came to Illinois with his father's family in 1855, and in 1860 commenced farming in Hickory Precinct, Cass County. He spent the years of 1862-3 and a part of 1864, in the mining fields of Oregon and Idaho, and then returned to Cass County. In 1866 he took up his residence in Virginia, and followed contracting and building until 1868, when he entered the tin and hardware business. He continued in this business, in company with Angier, and later, with Joseph Wilson, until 1873, since which time he has occupied the position he now holds. Mr. Walker was elected Mayor of Virginia in 1876, but resigned after having served a part of his term. He married Nov. 21, 1861, Miss Elizabeth Adams, a native of Macoupin County, Ill. She died March 3, 1873, leaving one son, John L., and a daughter, Mary E. Mr. Walker again married in January, 1876, Miss Martha E. Clark, of Schuyler County, and many years a resident of Cass. In politics, Mr. Walker is a Democrat. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and of the Knights of Honor, of Virginia.

JOHN N. WILSON, the present efficient

postmaster of Virginia City, was born in Licking County, O., June 1, 1832. George Wilson (deceased), his father, was a native of the Old Dominion State; was born Oct. 30, 1795, and by occupation was a farmer; he removed from his native State to Ohio about the year 1805, and thence to Virginia Precinct, Cass Co., and entered farming in 1842, and there died in 1872. He married Miss Jane B. Moore, a native of Pennsylvania, in the year 1819. They had nine children—four sons and five daughters; John, our subject, was the sixth born, and was about ten years of age when his parents came to Cass County. He received his schooling in Virginia public schools, and entered a dry goods store and post-office as a clerk, in 1856, at twenty-four years of age, for S. W. Nealy. He continued with Mr. Nealy for about six months, after which he entered the drug business for about two years. He served as the Virginia agent for the Wabash Railroad Company two years, and in 1867 was appointed postmaster of Virginia, by Andrew Johnson, and has continuously held the position with entire satisfaction to the public up to the present time. In 1873, Mr. Wilson opened in the same room with the post-office, a full and complete stock of books, stationery, wall paper, news, notions, etc., and takes the lead in his line of trade in the city. Oct. 7, 1858, he married Miss Rachael M. Berry, daughter of Thomas S. and America Berry, and a native of Cass County. She died Oct. 8, 1872, leaving three children: Kate, Jessie and Ella, who died at eight months of age. He again married, January 20, 1861, Miss Mary F. Walker, of Virginia, Cass Co., and a native of the State of Virginia. She died January 11, 1877. As a third wife, he took Miss L. H. Ainsworth, Feb. 8, 1878; she is a native of Vermont, and daughter of Samuel Ainsworth, deceased. Mr. Wilson is of Scotch-Irish descent. His fa-

ther, George, was a son of Archibald, who was one of the first pioneers of the Buckeye State, and his father, also Archibald, came West to fight the Indians, about 1760. Our subject was the first City Treasurer of the

City of Virginia, and has twice been a member of the City Council. He is a Republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, and of the A. O. U. W., Virginia Lodge.



*David Wagner*



**BEARDSTOWN--CITY AND PRECINCT.**

JUDGE JOHN A. ARENZ, Beardstown; was born Oct. 28, 1810, in Blankenberg, Province of the Rhine, Prussia. After having received a good school education, he was sent to an institute, where he received instruction in languages, drawing, engineering, surveying and music. Then he was employed for a year in a corps of surveyors, working for the government. He then entered as a student in a college, and for two years in the seminary at Bruhl, near Cologne. After having passed his examination, he received an appointment as teacher, and after having served in that capacity one year, was promoted to the office of principal, with three assistants. He held that position until 1835, when he resigned, and came to the United States, at the solicitation of his brother Francis, with whom he resided for several years. In 1836 he was employed as assistant engineer in the survey of a canal. For the purpose of perfecting himself in the English language and acquiring a knowledge of mercantile business, he entered a store at Springfield, where he remained until 1838, when his brother took him as a partner in his business. In 1844, he became the editor of a campaign paper, advocating the election of Henry Clay for the presidency, published at Springfield in the German language. He has been engaged in various business enterprises, and held many different offices. His first commission as Justice of the Peace, is dated Aug. 21, 1843; his first commission as Notary Public, is dated May 1, 1850, which office he held ever since. He was the first Mayor of the City of Beardstown, in 1850. He was twice elected to the office of County Judge, was admitted to the bar March 13, 1865; he also holds a diploma from the Ger-

man National Society for Trade and Industry, dated Feb. 22, 1850, at Leipzig. He never followed the practice of law before the courts; but he has settled up more estates, and of more value, than any man in Cass County. In the memorable county seat contest, in 1867, between Beardstown and Virginia, he was the Justice chosen by Beardstown, and selected by the two other justices, as presiding officer. The citizens of Beardstown were so well satisfied with his services, that when the decision had been made, they serenaded him. He has retired from all active business affairs, to settle up his own matters. He married in 1849, Miss Mary L. Miller, who is yet living, and the mother of two daughters, one of whom is the wife of Philip Kuhl, in Beardstown, and the other the wife of S. O. Spring, in Peoria.

FRANK J. ARENZ, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born near Arenzville, this county, April 8, 1838, and is a son of Francis and Louisa (Boss) Arenz. Francis Arenz, a politician of some note, and by occupation a merchant, miller and farmer, died in Morgan County; his wife died in Arenzville, this county. They had ten children, five sons and five daughters, of whom one son and one daughter are deceased. Mr. Arenz received his primary education in Arenzville, afterward attending the Illinois College, Jacksonville, Ill., for two years, and the Business College at Rockford, Ill., for one year. He then engaged in farming, in this county, where he has since pursued that occupation. In Arenzville, Feb. 21, 1860, he married Caroline B. Cire, who was born there, Feb. 4, 1839, and who has borne him five children: Katie L., Ada, Et a J., Frank C., and Lena. Mrs. Arenz is a daughter of John L. and

Catherina (Hamm) Cire; he a native of Kurhessen, Prussia, was born May 4, 1806; she also a native of Prussia. Mr. Arenz has been Deputy Assessor and School Director for two years. He is a Republican.

ERNST ARNOLDI, farmer, P. O. Bluff Springs; was born in Nassau, Germany, Sept. 13, 1822; son of Gustave and Margaret (Enderis) Arnoldi. Gustave Arnoldi, who was an Inspector of Forests, died in Germany, in 1834; his wife also died in Germany, in 1872; they had seven children. Our subject attended school for seven years in Germany, where he began life as a farmer, which occupation he has pursued since he came to this country. In this county, March 7, 1850, he married Amelia Winhold, a native of Germany, born April 13, 1833, daughter of William and Barbara Winhold; from this marriage six children have been born: Bertha, Ferdinand (deceased), Gustave, Jennie, Ella, and an infant (deceased). Mr. Arnoldi is a member of the Lutheran Church; he is a Republican.

MENDALL AARON, merchant, Beardstown; was born in Prussia about the year 1834, and early learned the butcher's trade with his father, who kept a meat market. In the fall of 1862, he emigrated to this country; worked at his trade in New York City, three months; then in St. Louis, about a month, and then traveled on foot with a pack of dry goods and notions, for about six months. After some time he procured a horse and wagon, for a very small sum, and traveled about three months, selling goods. In 1864, he opened a store at Kampsville, a little village in Calhoun County, Ills., invested about \$1,200 in goods, and carried on business there for nine years. He then sold out, and moved to La Grange, Mo., where he invested \$9,000 in a rolling-mill, but unfortunately lost his investment; he engaged in mercantile business for four years, in La Grange, then moved to Hardin,

Calhoun County, Ill., rented a store a short time, then built a substantial store and dwelling, and carried on mercantile business, and dealt in land there for seven years. He then sold out his town property and part of his farming land, and Sept. 21, 1881, came to Beardstown, and opened a general store at the corner of Main and Jefferson streets, where he has since done a good trade, employing two assistants. He married Oct. 8, 1862, Florence Driesen, a native of Prussia.

J. BAUJAN & CO., Home Mills, Beardstown; John Baujan, was born in Prussia, April 6, 1820, where he learned the brick-mason trade, beginning his apprenticeship at the age of eighteen, and serving four years. He followed his trade in Europe until 1849, when he came to this country, landing in New Orleans; thence came to St. Louis, Mo., where he worked at his trade for a year. From St. Louis he came, in 1850, to Arenzville, this county, where he pursued his trade seven years; then came to Beardstown, started a brick-yard, and followed brick laying and brick making, building many houses in this county. He built the saw mill now owned by H. C. Meyer, and run it for five years. In 1876, in company with John Schultz he built the present Home Mills, of which he has since been part owner. In April, 1852, he married Catharine Yeek, of this county, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany; they have seven children living, five sons and two daughters. John Schultz, junior partner in this firm, was born in Ottersheim, Bavaria, June 1, 1849, and at the age of fourteen years, apprenticed to the carriage making trade, working at the wood work branch of that business in his native State or four years. In 1867 he came to this country and located at Beardstown, where he worked at his trade two years; afterward carried on a wagon making and repairing shop at Rushville, Ill., two years, then returned to Beardstown, where he



engaged in mercantile business about three years. In 1875, he became a member of the firm of Scheber, Schultz & Gemming, which began building the present Home Mills on the site of the old City Mills; before the completion of the mills, however, the firm changed to J. Baujan & Co., who have since operated them, doing a merchant and exchange business. The mills are run by a fifty-horse power engine; have six run of stones, and three sets of rollers, having a capacity of 100 barrels a day, and employ from twelve to sixteen men. They manufacture four brands of flour: "Fancy Patent," "Viola," "Crown Jewel," and "XXX," which find a ready market. The building is a three story frame, 50x40 feet, with engine room 21x30 feet.

JOHN J. BEATTY, hardware merchant and present Mayor, Beardstown; was born in Franklin County, Pa., Oct. 22, 1846, and came West in 1855, with Jacob Reariek, who raised him, his parents having died when he was an infant. After coming to this section, he learned the trade of tinsmith, and in 1866 he went to Marion County, Mo., and worked at his trade, at Hannibal, Palmyra and Canton; also in Quincy. In 1874 he returned to Beardstown, and entered the old firm, buying a half interest therein, the style of which has since been Reariek & Beatty. They originally dealt only in stoves and tinware, but, about 1877, they added hardware and agricultural implements. Mr. Beatty was elected Mayor in 1881, and re-elected in 1882, and takes considerable interest in politics. He was married in Missouri, in 1873, to Miss Mary F. Pickering, of Canton, that State. They have two sons living.

DR. GEORGE BLEY, JR., Beardstown; was born in Philadelphia, Pa., July 14, 1851; eldest son of a family of three sons, and three daughters, born to Dr. George and Elizabeth (Lavis) Bley. Dr. George Bley, Sr., was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, came to the

United States in 1831, being then about eleven years old, and received his education in the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa.; his wife is a native of that city, her father being for many years foreman of the Philadelphia *Ledger*. The subject of this sketch removed in 1855, with his parents, to Scott County, Iowa, thence in 1858, to Rock Island, Ill., remaining there one year, and, after residing one year in Monroe County, Ill., settled in Staunton, Macoupin County, Ill., in 1861, where he received both a good English and German education. At the age of fifteen he entered his father's drug store in Staunton, Ill., remaining there till 1873, when he moved to Bethalto, Ill., and opened a drug store there on his own account, conducting business there until 1879, when he sold out and began the study of medicine with his father. In September, 1879, he entered the Jefferson Medical College, at Philadelphia, Pa., from which he graduated March 12, 1881; came to Beardstown in May, that year, and began the practice of his profession, and now enjoys a large practice. In 1872, he married Mary E., daughter of Green B. Hill, of Christian County, Ill.

JAMES BUCK, gardner and farmer, P. O. Beardstown; was born in Newark, Licking County, O., July 3, 1817. He followed farming in his native State till 1839, when he married Susan Daugherdy, and in the spring of the same year settled at Bluff Springs, in this county, where he first entered forty acres, where the Poor Farm now is. He farmed there until 1855, raising grain, hogs and sheep, and accumulated a good property. He was superintendent of the county farm from 1851 to 1855. In the latter year he moved to a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, in the Sangamon bottoms, where he remained a year, then came to Beardstown, and, with the exception of five years (1873-78), during which he farmed in Atchison County, Mo., has lived

in the vicinity of Beardstown ever since. He has owned a large number of farms, and is at present engaged in raising vegetables and small fruits, at Ravenswood. His wife died in 1878. They had eight children: Eliza J., Mrs. John Nicholson, of Beardstown; Mary F., Mrs. William Heminghouse, of Pekin, Ill.; Julia A., Mrs. George S. Kuhl; Harvey, died aged two years; John H., of Beardstown; Edgar J., engineer on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad; Louisa, died aged twenty-three years, and Samuel O., of Beardstown. Mr. Buck is a Republican. In January, 1876, James and John H. Buck bought of F. A. Hammer, their present stables, on Main street, Beardstown, where they conduct a livery and feed business, and also an agency for the sale of buggies and carriages. Their stables contain stall room for one hundred horses.

CHARLES E. BURNS, carpenter; P. O. Beardstown; was born in Springfield, Ill., July 25, 1842; son of T. J. and Eleanor (Craig) Burns. T. J. Burns, who was a carpenter, architect and builder, was born in Baltimore, Md., in 1811, and died in May, 1868; his wife, who was a native of New York City, died Nov. 1, 1866. They had a family of eleven children. Charles E. received a fair education, attending the Beardstown school, the brick school house, five miles east of that town, and also the brick school house in Beardstown Precinct. He began the business of life as a carpenter, in Chicago, Ill.; engaged in farming for a time; traveled several years on account of ill-health, and for the last five years has been contracting and building in Beardstown. He was in the army three years, serving in Co. C., Third Ill. Cav., under Capt. Dunbar; in Co. A. 14th Ill. Infy., under Captains Thompson and Nolton, and also in the 47th Ill. Infy., under Capt. Licks. In Beardstown, July 25, 1869, he married Caroline Brown, a native of Man-

chester, England, born Sept. 15, 1846, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Brown, and by this union they have been blessed with four children: Eleanor E., Lida M. (deceased), Benjamin F., Russell C. (deceased). Mr. Burns is a Democrat; is a member of Protection Lodge No. 22, A. O. U. W., in Beardstown, and is connected with the Congregational Church.

C. A. BUSSMANN, contractor and builder; Beardstown; was born in Osnabruck, Hannover, May 18, 1822, and at sixteen years of age began learning the manufacture of spinning wheels, gears and reeds, at which he worked till he was twenty years of age. In 1842, he emigrated to this country, and came *via* Baltimore and Pittsburg to Cincinnati, O., where he worked a short time on the National road, and late in the same year moved to St. Louis, Mo. He then worked on farms in different places till February, 1843, when he came to Beardstown, where he worked at various employments, and about the year 1845 apprenticed to the carpenter's trade, with a Mr. Cassan, and served three years. He has since been a contractor and builder, employing from five to eighteen workmen on his contracts, and has built many of the principal public and private buildings of Beardstown, and the county generally. In 1860, he built a two-story brick planing mill, on the corner of Monroe and Sixth streets, where he dresses the lumber and mouldings used in his contracts. In 1848 he married Mary Hackmann a native of this county, and by this union they have seven children living. Mr. Bussmann is a member of the German Methodist Church.

GEORGE H. BROWN, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born in Brattleboro, Vt., April 1, 1829; son of George W. and Xylphia (Chase) Brown; parents of five children; he, a weaver by trade, but chiefly engaged in farming; she died in 1851. Mr. Brown attended

school in Vermont, Fulton Co., Ills., for a time, but received only a limited education. He learned the blacksmith's trade in Vermont, Fulton Co., Ill., and followed it until 1858, since which time he has engaged in farming. He married here, Aug. 5, 1855, Sarah J. Hager, born in this precinct, May 20, 1840, who has borne him three children: Charles L., Henrietta, and Laura B. Mr. Brown is a Democrat. His wife is a member of the M. E. Church.

SAMUEL L. CALIF, farmer; P. O., Beardstown; was born in Sullivan County, N. H., June 25, 1820; son of Nathaniel and Sarah Pettingill, both of whom had been married before and had children. His father, who was a farmer, was born in Salisbury, N. H., Oct. 26, 1768. Samuel L. attended school in Plainfield, formerly Grant-ham, N. H., then at Canaan, N. H., and afterward at Lebanon, N. H. He hired out and worked on a farm for a while, near Plainfield, N. H., and in September, 1844, came to this county, where he taught school for a time, and afterward engaged in his present occupation, farming. He married in this county, April 22, 1854, Lucy A. Main, a native of Ohio; born Oct. 15, 1828; daughter of Loderick L. and Sarah Main; he, born in Connecticut, March 24, 1796; she, a native of New Hampshire. Mrs. Calif is a member of the M. E. Church; Mr. Calif was Township Trustee for some time, and School Director for many years. He met with an accident shortly after he came to this county. He was out on the Sangamon Bottom, hunting deer, when the horse he was riding became scared at some object; he threw his gun from him, which exploded, the shot striking him in the face, inflicting a bad wound.

THOMAS H. CARTER, attorney-at-law, Beardstown; was born in Little York, York Co., Penn., Oct. 11, 1823, and his parents dying when he was quite young, he was taken by an uncle to Connecticut, where he

remained till he was twenty years of age. He then commenced teaching school, which, in addition to his attending school himself, in the summer season, occupied his time till 1844, still continuing his classical studies till 1847, at which time he went to Ohio and read law at Canfield, with Judge Newton, and was admitted to practice in 1851. He then went to Ballston Springs, N. Y., and entered the law school, from which institution he graduated in 1852. In September, 1852, he married Miss Marcia L. Peek, and the next month moved to Beardstown, where he has since remained in the practice of the law. Mr. Carter was Postmaster at Beardstown from 1858 to 1861. He was originally a Whig, but since 1856 has been a Democrat. Has been City Attorney and Alderman. He has one son, Augustine P., in the Master Mechanics' office of the C., B. & Q. R. R. His father was named Bushnel, and his mother's maiden name was Julia Laub; they had three sons. Father and mother are both dead. The father was an able lawyer.

ANTONIO CASANOVA, bar-tender, Beardstown; is a native of Switzerland, born July 15, 1845; son of Balzer and Margarite (Herman) Casanova, natives of Switzerland. Balzer Casanova, who is still living, was born in 1810, and was for many years a member of the Swiss Legislative Department; his wife, who is still living, was born in 1812; they are the parents of ten children. Antonio attended school several years, in Ober Saxon, Switzerland, where he was afterward employed as a letter-carrier, for three years and three months. He then engaged in the coffee house business, for ten years, and March 4, 1869, landed in New Orleans, La., and has since followed the saloon business in this country. Mr. Casanova has spent a great deal of time in traveling, and has visited all the principal cities of this country, as well as those of Germany and France. For the past

year he has been tending bar in the Park Hotel saloon, in Beardstown. In New Orleans, La., Feb. 3, 1876, he married Julia Frederick, a native of Germany, born in 1853, who died of yellow fever, in Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 2, 1879; she was a daughter of George and Katie Frederick. His second wife, Effa Frederick, sister of his first wife, has borne him two children; by his first marriage, he had three children; of the five children, three are deceased: Julia (deceased), Antonio (1) (deceased), Antonio (2) (deceased), Julia and George. Mr. Casanova is a member, in good standing, of Germania Lodge, No. 369, Knights of Honor, of Memphis Tenn.

THOMAS J. CHALFANT, wagon maker, Beardstown; was born in Wheeling, W. Va., March 5, 1823, and came with the family of Lawrence Clark, who had adopted him, to this county, then Morgan County, and settled three miles south of Virginia, in December, 1835. Mr. Chalfant received such an education as the schools of that day afforded, and remained with Mr. Clark until he was eighteen years old; then worked in the plow shops of William and John Clark, completing his trade with John Whiteside. He then run a shop for himself a year; afterward made wood work for portable saw mills, for about a year, for John Webb, with whom he came to Beardstown, in 1848, remaining with him about twelve years, and after that, in 1849 or 1850, became pattern-maker, and took charge of the wood-work department, till 1859. He then carried on a jobbing shop till 1862, when he became foreman ship carpenter for Capt. Ebaugh, assisting in the building of the "Farragut," the first steamboat built here; worked on river boats two seasons, and was then employed as foreman in John Webb's wagon and plow shop for two years. In 1867, he opened his present shop, and has since made wood work for plows and wagons, James Hood making the iron work. In November, 1848, Mr. Chalfant

married Anne E., daughter of Thomas P. Norton, of Beardstown, a native of W. Virginia; they have had six children, five of whom are living.

JULIUS CIRE, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; is a native of this county; born in Arenzville, March 13, 1846; son of John L. and Catherina (Hamm) Cire; natives of Prussia, and parents of nine children. His father was born May 4, 1806. Mr. Cire received his education in Arenzville, where he attended school several years, and began life as a farmer, in this county, where he has since pursued that occupation. He was also engaged in the sewing machine business for about four years. In Arenzville, Oct. 27, 1869, he married Caroline C. Durham, who was born Nov. 6, 1844. They have had one child—May. Mrs. Cire is a daughter of Ezra J. and Sophia Durham; the latter, born in 1811, died Dec. 3, 1867. Mr. Cire has been Deputy Assessor for seven years. He is a Republican, and a member of German Lodge A. O. U. W., in Beardstown. His wife is a member of the Congregational Church.

CHARLES CLARK, restaurateur; Beardstown; is a native of Beardstown; born May 1, 1835; is a son of Charles and Catharine (Schaffer) Clark, and is probably the oldest native resident now living in Beardstown. His father, Charles Clark, a native of London, England, when a young man, came to this county, where he married Catharine, daughter of John Schaffer, of Monroe Precinct. He was book-keeper for Knapp & Pogue, of Beardstown. He died about the year 1836, leaving four children, of whom our subject, and Mrs. Sockmann, of Peoria, are living. Mr. Clark worked on boats on the Illinois and Mississippi rivers as cabin boy for about four years, and at the age of eighteen began learning the cooper's trade, serving his apprenticeship with his step-father, Thomas Elam. After working at his trade with dif-

ferent persons till 1861, he was employed during the war as cook and steward on various steamboats; afterward engaged in various pursuits till 1877, when he opened a restaurant on Main street, Beardstown, where he has since carried on that business, and also a confectionery, with good success. In 1857, he married Miss Staten, who has borne him four children, of whom one is living. In 1876, he married Mary McKnight, of Beardstown.

J. K. CLARK, farmer; P. O. Bluff Springs; was born in Monroe Precinct, this county, then Morgan County, May 14, 1828, and is a son of Thomas C. and Julia Ann (King) Clark. Thomas C. Clark was born in Pennsylvania, Feb. 24, 1785; was married in Barren County, Ky., April 23, 1807, to Julia Ann King, who was born in Green County, Tenn., Oct. 15, 1790. They moved to Tennessee, where they lived seventeen years, then came to Illinois, and, after several changes of location, located, in 1846, at Bluff Springs, where they died; he, Aug. 16, 1852; she, Aug. 2, 1866; of their thirteen children, four sons and five daughters grew to maturity, of whom three sons and three daughters are living, all in this county. The subject of this sketch attended school near Mount Pleasant, Ia., for about four years, afterward attending the schools of this county some time. He first taught school for some time, and then devoted his attention to farming, which occupation he has since pursued. Mr. Clark was, for many years, Road Supervisor, and School Director; he is a Democrat.

J. H. CRAMER, grocer, Beardstown; was born in Beardstown, March 29, 1859; son of Jacob H. and Charlotte (Trampe) Cramer. Jacob H. Cramer, subject's father, was born in Germany, Oct. 5, 1823; he was a carpenter by trade. In St. Louis, Mo., March 8, 1851, he married Charlotte Trampe; he died in Beardstown, May 7, 1872; he had nine children.

J. Edward, at Portland, Oregon; Engelbert, a farmer, in this county; Amelia M. M. (deceased), Julius Henry (subject), Adelia M., Charles William, Henry (deceased), Katie, and Bertha (deceased). The subject of this sketch received his education in Beardstown, and at the age of 14 years began learning the cigar-maker's trade with Henry Dettmer, serving one and one-half years in Beardstown, and one year in Meredosia; then worked as journeyman at various places for one and one-half years; also engaged in farming with his brother, in this county, for a short time. He then worked in a flouring mill at River Falls, Wis., sixteen months, and in the fall of 1880, returned to Beardstown, where he worked as core-maker in a foundry, until the fall of 1881, when he built his present store, at the corner of Fourth and State streets, on a part of his father's estate, where he has since carried on the grocery and provision business.

CHARLES H. CUMMINGS, photographer and real estate agent, Beardstown; was born in Scott County, Ill., Dec. 6, 1842; son of Henry B., and Ruth Anna (Freeborn) Cummings. Henry B. Cummings, was born in Maysville, Ky., and moved to Exeter, Scott Co., Ill., in 1840, where he engaged in mercantile business until his death, which occurred in the spring of 1850; he left two children. Charles H. received his education at Exeter, Ill., and at the age of fourteen became a brakeman on the Great Western Railroad, and after a few months, was promoted to conductor, and ran a passenger train until 1862. He then began learning photography in Fairfield, Iowa, thence went to Des Moines, Iowa, where he remained until 1864, thence to Indianapolis, Ind., working as an operator there until 1866; then operated in a gallery in St. Louis until 1870; then conducted a photograph gallery in Mattoon, Ill., two and a half years; and at Charleston, Ill., three years. After spending a year in Jacksonville, Ill.,

and conducting a gallery in Virginia, this county, three years; he came to Beardstown in the fall of 1879, where he bought his present photograph gallery, which he has since conducted with good success, employing one operator, two assistants, and a clerk. He was appointed Justice of the Peace in 1880, re-elected in 1881, and resigned the office in the spring of 1882, and was elected Police Magistrate for four years; he was also commissioned a Notary Public in 1882. He carries on a large real estate and collecting business. At Charleston, Ill., in 1874, he married Carrie Poorman of that place. He is a Democrat.

THOMAS CLARK, deceased, was born in Franklin County, Tenn., Sept. 14, 1820. (For parents, see sketch of his brother, J. K. Clark, which appears elsewhere in this work.) He received his education partly in Iowa, and partly in Monroe Precinct, this county, and began life as a farmer, which occupation he followed until his death. He died from lockjaw, caused by a nail running into his foot, Nov. 8, 1878. He was married in Beardstown, April 12, 1851, to Sarah E. Jumpp, born in Grant County, Ky., Nov. 25, 1826, daughter of Valentine and Mary Jumpp. By this union they were blessed with eleven children: George E., Alice A., Henry J., Sophronia, Adelaide (deceased), Delia, Marion M., Noah N., Mary M. (deceased), Barbara and Maud (deceased). Mr. Clark was a Democrat, and a member of the M. E. Church.

WILLIAM DUVAL, farmer; P. O., Arzenville; was born in Beardstown, Jan. 25, 1837, and is a son of William H. and Elizabeth (Duvandach) Duval, natives of Hanover, Germany. William H. Duval was born in 1806; was a shoemaker, carpenter, and farmer; he died in August, 1880. His wife was born in 1804; they had nine children. The subject of this sketch received his edu-

cation in Beardstown, worked at the printer's trade two years, and has since been a farmer in this county. He married April 1, 1859, Mary Meier, a native of Prussia; and from this union the following children have been born: Hannah, William, John, Minnie, Edward, Henry, Emma, Louis and Lucy. Mr. Duval has been School Director and Trustee for nine years; is a member of the Lutheran Church, and an adherent of the Republican party.

EDWIN F. DERR, American Express Agent; Beardstown; was born in Lebanon Penn., March 8, 1844. He enlisted Feb. 28, 1862, for three years, in the Twelfth Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, re-enlisted in January, 1864, and was discharged July 20, 1865, at Philadelphia, Penn. During his term of service he participated in many important engagements; he served under Gen. Pope in the second battle of Manassas, was in the battles of South Mountain, Harper's Ferry, and Antietam; was with General Sheridan at Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Newtown; was in the fight at McConnellsburg, Penn., and was with Gen. Milroy when he was driven out of Winchester, Va. He served two years in the ranks; was Orderly Sergeant and was tendered a commission as First Lieutenant, by the Governor of Pennsylvania, but declined. In March, 1866, he came West; stayed in St. Louis, Mo., for a time; engaged for one and a half years as a clerk in the Quarter-master's Department, at Fort Gibson, Indian Territory; was clerk for the Kansas Pacific Rail Road, at Kansas City, four years, and in 1874 came to Illinois. He was clerk in the Freight Department of the C., B. & Q. R. R., at Rock Island, Ill., for a year, then agent at Piasa, Ill., for same road; from July, 1877, to January, 1879, was agent for the C., B. & Q. R. R., at Beardstown, and has since been the agent of the American Express Company here. Mr. Derr married in Beards-

town, Jan. 14, 1879, Statia Cornelius, of Peoria, Ill.

LUKE DUNN, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; is a native of Cornwall, England; was born May 20, 1824; son of Luke and Elizabeth (Bullen) Dunn; also natives of Cornwall. His father was a farmer by occupation; his mother died Dec. 11, 1831; they had eight children. Our subject received his education in the parish of Alternun, in England, and began farming in this county, where he has since followed that occupation. He married, March 24, 1846, in Cornwall, England, Elizabeth Jasper, a native of that country, and daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Jasper. By this union they have had eight children. Mr. Dunn is now serving his second term as County Commissioner; he is a member of Lodge No. 26, I. O. O. F., and of Lodge No. 726, Knights of Honor, in Beardstown.

ROBERT H. DUNN, hardware merchant, Beardstown; son of Luke Dunn, was born in Beardstown Precinct, April 2, 1852. In addition to his common school education, he attended the Illinois College, at Jacksonville. In September, 1881, he, in conjunction with his cousin, William, purchased the old established hardware business of Abner Foster, and continued under the firm name of W. T. and A. H. Dunn, till March 6, 1882, when Robert H. became sole proprietor. He is doing a very fair business, which is constantly growing. His father, Luke Dunn, was elected County Commissioner, at the last election, on the Republican ticket, receiving a majority in this Democratic county, of 216 over a very popular Democrat.

JOHN DUNN, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born in Cornwall, England, Aug. 1, 1812. (For parents see sketch of his brother, Luke Dunn, which appears in this work.) Mr. Dunn received his education in the Parish of Alternun in England, and began farming in this county, where he fol-

lowed that occupation until his death, which occurred Oct. 4, 1875. He was married in this precinct, July 20, 1840, to Caroline Treadway, a native of Harford County, Md.; born May 13, 1817; still living. By this union they were blessed with nine children: Elizabeth (deceased), Mary A., Martha J. (deceased), John G. (deceased), Emeline (deceased), Sarah E., William T., Charles N. and an infant (deceased). Mrs. Dunn is a daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Treadway. Mr. Dunn was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; he was a Republican.

DUCHARDT BROS., butchers and cattle dealers, Beardstown; George and William M. Duchardt, the members of this firm, are the sons of John and Frederiecke (Krohe) Duchardt. George, the elder brother, was born in Beardstown, Feb. 22, 1849; William M. was born Sept. 20, 1850; they both early engaged in the butcher business with their father, who was a butcher by trade. In 1869, the brothers formed a partnership, and purchased their father's slaughter houses, butcher shop, and dwelling house, and under the firm name of Duchardt Bros., have since carried on a prosperous business. They have a good meat market on State street; for some years they packed pork and handled all kinds of meats, tallow, and lard; they buy and ship all kinds of live stock. Their father, John Duchardt, was born in 1795, in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, where he learned the butcher's trade. At twenty years of age, he emigrated to America, landing in Baltimore, Md., thence went to Cincinnati, O., where he remained until 1832 or 1833; he then went to St. Louis, which was at that time but a small French village; then came to Beardstown about 1833, where he opened a butcher shop, supplying meat to the river steamboats, and doing a general trade. He took real estate in payment for some of his meat bills, and a farm, which he got for one of these bills, he after-

ward sold for \$5,000. He engaged in the butchering and pork packing business in Beardstown, till 1869, when he retired, his sons taking the management of the business. He built a slaughter house on the west side of Second street, and for several years butchered for a Chicago beef packer, killing as high as seventy beeves per day. He is now residing on his farm in Beardstown Precinct. He married a daughter of Fred Krohe, of Beardstown; he had six children, five of whom are living: Louise, wife of George Volkmar, of Beardstown, Henry, George, William, and Louis.

JOHN R. DUTCH, grain dealer, Beardstown; was born in Cape Girardeau, Mo., Sept. 7, 1830, and came to Illinois with his parents in 1837. In 1849, he joined the Cass County Company, consisting of twenty-one persons, who went overland to California, where he worked at mining until the fall of 1850, when he returned to Cass County, and in 1851 entered McKendree College for one year, after which he engaged in merchandising in Beardstown with his brother, which he has continued; also dealing in grain. In 1879, this firm purchased a steamer and several barges, and operated largely in grain along the river from Peoria to St. Louis, handling a large amount of grain. Capt. E. J. Dutch was born in Salem, Mass., in 1783, and followed the sea for twenty-five years, being commander of many vessels, and sailing all over the world. He first located at Cincinnati, and afterward went to Cape Girardeau and helped lay out the town. In 1836, he came to Cass County, where he died in 1849. He married in New York City, and had ten children, six sons and four daughters, John R., (our subject) being the third son. Three brothers and three sisters are living.

F. M. DAVIS, merchant, Beardstown; was born in Monroe, Cass Co., July 26, 1844; son of John and Elizabeth (Dobson)

Davis, he (John) being born near Ashland, this county, Nov. 16, 1823, and was the first white child born in Cass County. She (Elizabeth) was a native of Kentucky. They were married Nov. 16, 1842, and five children were born to them. Mr. F. M. Davis, our subject, for a young man, has had a varied life. At the age of eighteen he enlisted in the One Hundred and Fourteenth Illinois Infantry, and served as drummer till May 24, 1865, nearly three years, being in numerous hot engagements, including Vicksburg, Jackson, Nashville, etc. Returning after the war, he clerked awhile, and then entered a commercial college. After his marriage with Miss Lizzie King, he removed to Secor, but returned to Beardstown and entered into business on his own account, in which he has since continued. His wife is a lady of much business ability and enterprise, and she has for many years successfully conducted the millinery and dress-making business. She is a native of North Carolina, born March 15, 1846.

HENRY B. DESOLLAR, dealer in agricultural implements, Beardstown; was born in London, England, February 11, 1820. His father, who was of French parentage, was born in Amsterdam, Holland. Mr. DeSollar came to America in 1834, and located at Brantford, Upper Canada, and when fifteen years of age was apprenticed to the carriage and wagon-making trade, at which he served three years. He served in the militia in the Canadian rebellion of 1837, for six months. In 1838, he moved to Akron, Ohio, where he worked at his trade as journeyman nine months; then started a shop of his own in South Akron; afterward moved to Hartford, O., where he ran a shop for eighteen months. In July, 1842, he came to Bethel, Morgan County, Ill., where he carried on business for some years. In 1848, he came to Beardstown, bought a shop, and carried on the man-



ufacture of carriages and wagons, until 1868, when he turned his shop into warerooms for agricultural implements, and has since engaged in the implement business. In Akron, O., in 1839, he married Christina Clemens, who died in Bethel, Ill., in 1847, leaving three children. In 1849, in Beardstown, he married Miss Cook, and from this second marriage four children have been born.

OLIVER DECKER, farmer and grain-buyer; P. O. Bluff Springs; is a native of this county; born Jan. 29, 1839; son of John and Mary Ann (Guyott) Decker. John Decker, whose biography appears elsewhere in this work, was born in Germany, May 21, 1804, and is still living near Bluff Springs, this county; his wife is deceased. They had two children: Oliver and Oscar, the latter deceased. Oliver received but a limited education, attending for a short time the country schools and the school in Beardstown. He began life as a farmer, and has since followed that occupation; he also deals in grain. He married in this precinct, Dec. 18, 1867, Josephine L. Rew, born Jan. 22, 1843, who has borne him two children: John W. and Charles H. Mrs. Decker is a daughter of Bradford B. and Julia Ann Rew; he, a native of New York, born Jan. 12, 1816; she, a native of Ohio, born Aug. 25, 1821; still living. Mr. Decker is a supporter of the Democratic party, and has been Road Supervisor two terms.

JAMES A. DICK, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born in Simpson County, Ky., June 10, 1823. His parents, Peter and Christina Dick, were natives of North Carolina, and are both deceased; they had a family of eight children—five boys and three girls; his father was a farmer. James A. attended school in his native county, and afterward in Sangamon and Cass Counties, of this State, receiving but a limited education. He began life as a farmer, and has since followed that occupation. He was married in this county Oct 7,

1845, to Mary Bowen; born in Monroe County, O., Sept. 27, 1819; daughter of Jeremiah and Ellen Bowen; from this marriage they have had the following children: Samuel (deceased), Ellen, Nancy (deceased), Amanda (deceased), James M., Mary A. and William F. Mr. Dick was elected Sheriff of this county in 1856, and served two years; was re-elected in 1864, and again served two years. He has been School Director and Road Supervisor; and is a member of Ark Lodge No. 23 A. F. and A. M. in Beardstown; he is a Democrat.

JOHN DECKER, farmer; P. O. Bluff Springs; one of the oldest settlers of this county; was born in Germany, May 21, 1804. His parents, Nicholas and Mary (Kersting) Decker, had five children, three boys and two girls: John, Antony, Theresa, Elizabeth and Henry. Mr. Decker received his education in Germany, where he attended school seven years, till he reached the age of fourteen, and began farming in Germany, and since the year 1835 has pursued that occupation here. In this precinct, in 1835, he married Mary Ann Guyott, who was born in St. Augustine, Florida, in 1797, and died Nov. 28, 1873; they have had two children: Oliver and Oscar. When Mr. Decker came here, he bought 320 acres of land, at eight dollars per acre, which is still in his possession. He is a Democrat, and a member of the Methodist Church.

DAVID C. DILLEY, insurance; Beardstown; was born in Columbiana County, O., Sept. 3, 1828, and was raised near Warren, Ohio, where, at the age of eighteen, he apprenticed to the harness-maker's trade, at which he worked there till 1850. In the fall of that year he came to this county; lived for a time east of Virginia, then moved into that town, where he worked at his trade till 1853; afterward engaged in farming for about three years. In 1858 he came to Beardstown,

where he worked at his trade a year, and in the fall of 1859 was elected County Treasurer of this county, which position he held twelve years. Since 1870 he has been engaged in the insurance business. In June, 1853, he married Melvina Hall, of Virginia, Ill.

J. C. H. EBERWEIN, merchant, Beardstown; was born at Giessen, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, in March, 1819, and received his education in the University of Giessen. In 1837, he came to this country, and in 1838, to Beardstown; worked for a time in a packing house and on a farm, and for about two and a half years in a store. In 1842, he moved to Butler County, O., where he married Miss Maria Gungerich, and, returning to this county, engaged in farming, near Arenzville, until the death of his wife, in the spring of 1846. He then spent some time in Wisconsin, New Orleans, La., Kansas and Nebraska. He kept store at Richland, Ill., for about two years, for Mr. Moore, and in 1849 engaged in business with a partner, to whom he sold out his interest in 1851. He then entered one hundred and twenty acres of land in Monroe Precinct, this county, improved about fifty-three acres, and in 1852 went to California, with a party of four, by the overland route. He traded in provisions between Sacramento and Nevada City, Cal., and in 1853, returned via the Panama route. He then engaged in business for two years with a partner, whose interest he then bought out, and carried on business in the same store till 1880, when he built his present business house, where he carries on a general merchandising business, assisted by his two sons. In 1853, he married Christina Tucken, of Beardstown, and by this union there have been born four children: August, Herman, Christina and William. By his first marriage he had two children: Lena and Bertha. Since 1853 he has been engaged in the pork-packing business.

JOHN EDDY, foundry; Beardstown; was born Dec. 25, 1836, in Cornwall, England, where he served seven years apprenticeship to the machinist's trade. In 1857, he came to this country, and located at Beardstown, where he worked at his trade until the breaking out of the late war, when he went to St. Louis, Mo., and there became foreman in a gun-boat yard during the war. In 1867, he returned to Beardstown, and till 1871, was foreman in Mr. Ebaugh's machine shop and foundry there. He then engaged as engineer on various steam-boats, which Mr. Ebaugh commanded on the Illinois River, till 1874, and in 1875 again entered the foundry and soon became foreman of the machine shops, which position he still holds. The foundry and machine shop, when running full time, employ twenty-four hands, and are now filling contracts for the C., B. & Q. R. R.

FREDERICK W. EHRHARDT, manufacturer, Beardstown; is a native of Hanover, Germany, born March 24, 1842. He was educated in Brunswick, where he received a university course, and afterward learned the mercantile business, being employed with cotton and linen manufacturers. He came to the United States in October, 1867. Remained in New York two years. He was engaged in the manufacture of neckwear in Chicago, for about two years, and came to Beardstown in 1871. The first year, he was engaged in the manufacture of neekties, and the sale of special lines of furnishing goods. In 1873, he began the manufacture of baking powder and extracts, and in 1875, added the manufacture of ginger ale and white beer. In 1879, he added the manufacture of soda and mineral waters; and then blueing and per-fumeries. He has a large sale for his different productions, and especially, his Universal Baking Powder. His sales average about \$10,000 per year, selling mostly to wholesale dealers. In 1870 he married, in Chicago,

Miss Rosa Rosenmerkel, and has five children living, two sons and three daughters.

JUDGE SYLVESTER EMMONS, deceased, was born in Hunterdon County, N. J., Feb. 28, 1808. In 1831, he went to Philadelphia, Pa., where he studied law; was admitted to the bar in Hancock County, Ill., in May, 1843; and in 1844, became editor of an anti-Mormon paper, called the Nauvoo Expositor, only one number of which was published, when the press was destroyed. He came to Beardstown in 1844, and conducted the Beardstown Gazette until 1852. He served as Circuit Clerk of this county nine years; was appointed Postmaster of Beardstown, in 1849; was Mayor of Beardstown two terms; was Master in Chancery of this county several terms, and was Police Magistrate and Justice of the Peace here, for many years. He was originally an old line Whig, afterward a Republican. In 1847, he married Elizabeth Miller, sister of E. B. Miller, and from this union four children were born: Alice, Arthur, and two others, who died in infancy. Judge Emmons died Nov. 15, 1881. He was a member of the Methodist Church.

HENRY T. FOSTER, retired, Beardstown; was born in Lincoln County, Me., Feb. 3, 1815, son of Robert Foster and Maria (Emerson) Foster; he, a native of Boston, born in 1773, and she, a native of New Hampshire; they had eleven children. Robert was a merchant and shipbuilder, and came to Illinois in 1835, but returned to Westchester, Pa., where he died in 1847, his wife having died in 1831. Our subject came to Illinois in 1835, and in 1836 opened a store, which after two years he sold out. He then made a trip to New York, and returning, went into partnership with his brother for several years. He was one of the joint purchasers of the Wilbourn Flouring Mills, which he assisted in conducting about three years. From 1840 till 1852, Mr. Foster

was engaged in farming; also in packing and shipping hogs, for the Eastern markets, and from 1852 till 1876, he was engaged in merchandising, and the agricultural implement business.

ABNER FOSTER, retired; Beardstown; was born in Union, Lincoln Co., Me., Aug., 3, 1817, and came west at the age of eighteen years, locating in Schuyler County, Ill., but shortly afterward removed to Richmond, where he remained two years, merchandising, in connection with his brother Henry. In 1838, he and his brother came to Beardstown, and began merchandising. In 1840, he with two others, bought a mill, and continued the business two or three years. He then engaged in farming. In 1849 he quit farming, and came to Beardstown, and conducted the lumber business till 1856, when he went to Hancock County, and run a steam saw mill. In 1860, he returned to Beardstown. In 1868 he again engaged in the lumber business, and in 1872 commenced the hardware business, which he continued until 1881. In 1876, he was elected President of the Cass County Bank, in which he has been a director and stockholder for many years. In 1844, he married Miss Sarah J. Ward, daughter of Col. John M. Ward, of Menard County, and two children were born, both of whom are dead.

COL. JOHN B. FULKS, deceased, was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia, in 1805. His mother died when he was an infant; his father married again, and John B., at the age of eleven years, went to live in Kentucky. He received a good education in Frankfort, Ky., where he learned the printer's trade; he was U. S. Marshal, and a member of the Kentucky Legislature. He came to Beardstown, April 4, 1834, where he worked at his trade; he afterward started a paper in Jacksonville, Ills.; thence removed to Rushville, Ills., where he published a paper four or five years, and in 1841, returned to Beards-

town. In 1851 he was elected Sheriff of this county; he was the first City Clerk of Beardstown. He married Feb. 26, 1835, Sarah Crewdson, a native of Logan County, Ky., daughter of James and Elizabeth (Bell) Crewdson, natives of Westmoreland County, Va., who came to this county in 1831 from Logan County, Ky. Mr. Fulks died Nov. 1, 1866, leaving a widow and seven children: Timoleon C., editor of the Marion Co. (Ills.) *Enquirer*; Richard B., merchant, of this place; Samuel, U. S. Express Messenger in Wright City, Mo.; Mary, Emma, at home; Charles C., cashier of Cass Co. Bank; and Frank M., clerk in a store. Mrs. Fulks came to Beardstown with her parents in 1831, where she received her education. Richard B. Fulks, second son of Col. John B. and Sarah (Crewdson) Fulks, was born at Rushville, Ills., Feb. 6, 1840. At the commencement of the late war he enlisted in Co. "K," 33d Illinois Infantry, and after serving two and one-half years in the ranks, was commissioned Quartermaster, and served in that capacity till the close of the war. In July, 1872, he opened the Great Western grocery store in Beardstown, but after two months it burned out, entailing a loss to him of \$1,000; he then started business in another store, which was also consumed by fire, Nov. 27, 1875; he again started in business, and was again burned out. In August, 1876, he moved to the Opera House Block, where he has since carried on an extensive grocery and dry goods business.

CHARLES E. FULKS, cashier of the Cass County Bank, Beardstown; was born in Beardstown, Feb. 10, 1856, and received a good education in the schools of that place. At the age of twelve years, he entered the office of the *Central Illinoisan*, where he worked six years. He then engaged as clerk for R. B. Fulks, seven years. In October, 1881, he was elected cashier of the Cass County Bank, which position he has since

filled. He was also elected City Clerk of Beardstown, in November, 1881.

ANTON GREVE, cigar manufacturer; Beardstown; was born in Hanover, Germany, January, 28, 1847, and at the age of eleven years began learning the cigar-maker's trade, which he completed when seventeen years old, having in the meantime received his education by attending school in the mornings. He worked as a journeyman for a year in his native State, and in 1865 came to the United States, and followed his trade about three years in New York city. In the spring of 1868 he came to Beardstown, where he worked at his trade as journeyman for about seven years, and in 1875 opened a cigar factory in the room now occupied by the post office, and the following year entered into partnership with his brother, in company with whom he carried on business for four years. They then dissolved partnership, and since the fall of 1880, Mr. Greve has carried on business alone. His present factory, No. 29, Fourth District of Illinois, is situated on State street, opposite Park, where he removed from his old stand in 1881. He employs two cigar makers, and manufactures on an average 120,000 cigars annually; his principal brands are "Smoking Car," and "At Home." In Beardstown, in 1872, he married Mary Pauk; they have four children.

ROBERT H. GARM, merchant tailor and clothier; P. O. Beardstown; is a native of this county; born Aug. 30, 1854, and at the age of ten years moved with his parents to Beardstown, where he received his education. He afterward took a business course in the Bryant & Stratton Commercial College, St. Louis, Mo., from which he graduated in December, 1871. In February, 1872, he became a member of the firm of Garm & Benneson, merchant tailors and clothiers, he having one-half interest in the business; after two years, Mr. Pilger bought Mr. Benneson's interest, and after

carrying on business two years, under the firm name of Garm & Pilger, Mr. Garm sold out his interest to his partner. Mr. Garm, in company with his father, then engaged in business under the firm name of Henry Garm & Son, until Sept. 1, 1877, when G. M. Pitner bought Henry Garm's interest, and the business was conducted on the same stand, under the firm name of Garm & Pitner, until August, 1879, when Mr. Garm bought out his partner's interest and Jan. 1, 1880, moved to his present place of business, where he has since carried on the clothing business.

HENRY GARM, grain buyer; P. O. Beardstown; is a native of Germany; born May 22, 1831; son of Henry and Margaret (Albers) Garm, natives of Altenburg, Germany, and parents of two children. Subject's father, who was a farmer, was born in 1798, and died in Washington, D. C., in 1840. Mr. Garm attended school in that city several years, and began the business of life as a farmer in this county in 1852. He ran a saw mill six years; then kept a lumber-yard; engaged in the merchant tailoring business; afterward in the ice business, for three years; and finally engaged in his present business, dealing in grain. He married here, in May, 1851, Mary D. Harris; born March 22, 1831, who has borne him eight children, five of whom are living: Robert, John, Mamie, Joseph and Frank. Mr. Garm is a Democrat; has been Master of Lodge No. 23, A. F. and A. M., three years; has been Alderman four years. He is a member of the M. E. Church.

GEORGE W. GOODELL, ice dealer, Beardstown; was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, April 29, 1823. At the age of seventeen, he began boating on the Ohio Canal, running from Portsmouth to Cleveland, and soon became captain of a boat. In 1848 he became captain of a freight boat, running from Chicago to La Salle, Ill.; in 1851, he took command of a boat running from La Salle to St.

Louis, Mo., and during the twelve years which he spent on the river, commanded freight, tow and passenger boats; he made one trip up the Missouri River. During the late war he engaged in the ice business, in which he had been previously interested, and in 1871, located in Litchfield, Ills., where he lived eight years. In 1875, he began cutting ice on Muscooten Bay, and built an ice house near the C. B. & Q. Railroad depot, from which he shipped ice by rail. In 1880, he formed a partnership with Huse, Loomis & Co., of St. Louis, Mo., the firm here being known as Huse, Goodell & Co., and built an ice house on the Bay, having a capacity of 18,000 tons, and enlarged the capacity of the houses on the C. B. & Q. Railroad, to 12,000 tons. Their houses are fitted up with all modern contrivances, and with a hoisting apparatus, invented by Mr. Goodell. The firm of which Mr. Goodell is a member, is one of the most extensive ice companies in the West, and employs about 250 men in the cutting season, and the great portion of the shipping season, from forty to fifty men.

THEODORE HEINZ, deceased, was a native of Germany, born near Frankfort-on-the-Main, February 4, 1830. His mother died when he was a babe, and his father, Jacob Heinz, came to America in 1841 or 1842, and located in Arenzville, this county, and sent for his family of three small boys in 1842. Jacob Heinz worked at carpenter's and other trades. Mr. Heinz lived in Arenzville till he was about seventeen years old, then came to Beardstown, where he was employed as clerk in a general store, till he reached the age of twenty-two; then he returned to Arenzville and engaged in merchandising about three years. He then returned to Beardstown, where he was engaged as book-keeper for Nolte & McClure for a number of years; then engaged in the clothing and merchant-tailoring business, which

he followed until his death, in June, 1877. He was married in Beardstown, in November, 1851, to Ellen A. Coolidge, a native of Massachusetts, born in 1832. From this union eight children were born, five sons and three daughters, all living. Mrs. Heinz came to Beardstown in 1849, with her sister, Mrs. Joseph McGee, now of Waukegan, Ill., and taught in a Beardstown private school, before her marriage, and in the public schools for the last five years. Mr. Heinz served as City Clerk, and in other city offices. He was a Republican.

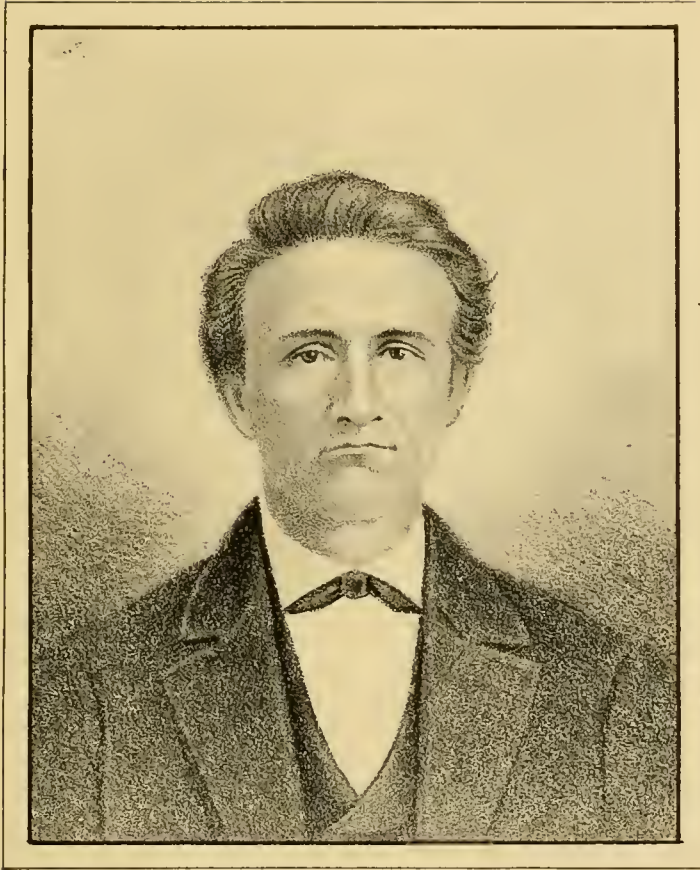
LYMAN HAGER, farmer, P. O. Beardstown; was born in New Hampshire, Aug. 30, 1828; son of Reuben and Sarah (Reed) Hager; also natives of New Hampshire; he, a farmer, born March 8, 1793, died March 22, 1871; she, born April 4, 1795, died Sept. 12, 1846; they had a family of seven children. Lyman received a limited education, having attended but a short time the schools at Beardstown and Bluff Springs, and also at the Cottonwood school house. He began farming in this precinct, where he has since followed that occupation, with the exception of four years, which he spent mining in California. In Beardstown, this county, June 15, 1855, he married Cornelia Spalding, a native of Indiana; born Jan. 15, 1838, and died Dec. 23, 1878, leaving nine children: Rose A., Edward, Douglas, Clara, Esther, Emma, Christina, Mary and Joseph. Jan. 5, 1879, he married his present wife, Annie Devlin; born near Dublin, Ireland, June 29, 1847; daughter of Patrick and Rose Devlin; from this marriage two children have been born, William and Charles. Mr. Hager is a Democrat; his wife is a member of the Catholic Church.

WILLIAM RILEY HAGER, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; is a native of Beardstown, this county; born Oct. 29, 1850; son of Curtis F. and Elizabeth (Horror) Hager. Curtis

F. Hager, a native of New Hampshire, and a farmer by occupation, was born June 21, 1815, and died Jan. 1, 1877; his wife, a native of Indiana, was born in 1809, and died April 14, 1867; they were the parents of sixteen children. Mr. Hager attended the schools of this district about ten years, and has since followed farming here. He married here, Sept. 11, 1873, Hannah E. Bristow, born in Missouri, July 25, 1856, daughter of George W. and Mary E. Bristow. Their children are: Arthur L., born Jan. 23, 1877, and Clarence, born May 18, 1880. Mr. Hager is a Democrat; is connected with the M. E. Church, and is a member of Lodge No. 16, I. O. O. F., in Beardstown.

JAMES M. HAGER, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born here, April 29, 1849. He began life as a farmer, and has since pursued that occupation. In Beardstown, this county, Aug. 13, 1872, he married Elizabeth Chesscher, a native of Illinois, born Nov. 26, 1848, daughter of Thomas and Esther Chesscher. From this union eight children have been born: James, Sarah, Elora, Esther, Mary (deceased), and three others who died in infancy. Mr. Hager is a Democrat; he is a brother of William R. Hager, whose biography appears elsewhere in this work.

JOHN H. HAGENER, lumber and grain dealer, Beardstown; was born in Beardstown, Ill., Jan. 7, 1850; son of William Hagener, a native of Hanover, Germany, who came to Beardstown in 1842, having lived in St. Louis a short time before coming here, and there married Miss Lenora Peters. He was a carpenter and builder, and died in 1856, aged fifty-nine years. His wife and three sons only survive him. Our subject, after receiving an ordinary education, learned the trade of stone cutter, but afterward was a clerk and bookkeeper for several years. In 1874, he embarked in the lumber and grain business, first by himself, and afterward in connection with



*Herrnau Engelbach*





his brother. They own warehouses at Beardstown, Hamilton, and Arenzville, and have agencies at other points. They do a very extensive business in both lumber and grain. Mr. Hagener, as stated in this work, under the head of People's Bank, has been a director of that institution since its organization, he has also held other positions of trust. He was married in 1875, to Miss Kate Pappmeier, daughter of J. F. Pappmeier, and has three children living.

WILLIAM HUPPERS, merchant tailor and clothier, Beardstown; was born in Prussia, Oct. 1, 1839, and at the age of thirteen years began learning the tailor's trade in his native land, at which he served two years, and then worked in Belgium and Paris for several years. March 17, 1863, he arrived in New York city, and went from there to Columbus, Ohio, but in June he came to Beardstown, and worked at his trade till 1869, when he started for himself, shortly afterward taking in as partner Philip Miller, and so continued until Feb. 1, 1881, Mr. Miller retiring at that time; since when Mr. Huppers has conducted the business by himself, at the corner of Main and State streets, where he keeps a full line of merchant tailoring goods, employing six or seven hands. He was married in 1865, to Miss Minnie Henkel, of Arenzville.

JOHN H. HARRIS, banker, Beardstown; was born in Cornwall, England, April 4, 1833, and came with his parents to the United States in 1838, first going to Louisville, and in 1840 removing to the Sangamon Bottoms. In 1854, our subject entered McKendree College, where he remained three years, and then took a course at a commercial college in Philadelphia, from which he graduated in 1858, and at once entered the office as book-keeper for John Gregg, afterward becoming agent for the sale of that gentleman's lands in Illinois, with headquarters at Beardstown. In 1864, Mr. Harris also entered the lumber

business for five years, and the dry goods trade at the same time. In 1877, he became stockholder at the organization of the People's Bank, was elected its first president, and has filled that position ever since. In Lebanon, this State, in 1860, he married Miss Phebe Padon, who bore him five children, and died in 1873. In May, 1875, he married Mrs. Ann Tull, widow of David Tull, and two children have blessed this union. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

FRANKLIN A. HAMMER, banker, Beardstown; was born in Rockingham County, Va., April 12, 1829; son of John and Elizabeth (Marica) Hammer, Virginians, but of German descent. Franklin came with his parents to Illinois, in 1835, and in 1843 removed to Beardstown. The father had been a blacksmith and merchant, but after coming to Beardstown kept the Virginia House. He afterward bought a farm, upon which he lived until 1867, when he moved to Beardstown, where he died in 1868. Our subject taught school one year, but went to farming in 1852, continuing six years. He served as Treasurer of Cass County in 1857-58. In 1852, he married Margaret Ann Lee, daughter of Caleb Lee, one of the pioneers of Cass County. In 1858, Mr. Hammer came to Beardstown, and was engaged in the livery business for sixteen years. In 1876, he became a stockholder in the Cass County Bank, was elected a Director in 1878, and at once chosen President of the same. He is a Democrat, and takes an active interest in all public affairs.

DAVID HENDERSON, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born in Pike-ton, Pike Co., O., April 20, 1825; son of James and Rachel (Henderson) Henderson, natives of Virginia, both deceased. James Henderson was born April 23, 1789; followed the occupation of a civil engineer and surveyor, and died March 11,

1849; his wife, born March 25, 1793, died Oct. 31, 1862; they had a family of nine children. David attended school in his native town till he was fourteen years old, and in May, 1844, came to Illinois, and located in Meredosia; afterward lived in Arcadia, Ill., two years, and in March, 1846, came to this county, and settled near Beardstown. He learned the carpenter's trade with his father, in Piketon, O., and worked at it till he came here, since which time he has followed farming. In Beardstown, this county, Aug. 14, 1873, he married Martha Morgan; born in North Carolina, Dec. 15, 1847; daughter of George and Louisa Morgan; from this union four children have been born: James H., Mary G., Gertrude and Fannie A. Mr. Henderson is a Republican; his wife is a member of the M. E. Church.

DAVID M. IRWIN, real estate and insurance, Beardstown; was born in Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 6, 1814; son of John and Elizabeth (Muhlenburg) Irwin; he, a shipping merchant of Philadelphia, Pa.; she, a daughter of Frederick Augustus Muhlenburg, first Speaker of the House of Representatives. David M. was educated in private schools in his native city, and at the age of thirteen became a clerk in a wholesale dry goods store, and afterward book keeper in an importing and shipping house. In 1841, he came to Springfield, Ills., engaged in mercantile business there, four years, and afterward in St. Louis, Mo., four years. In 1848 he came to Virginia, this county, where he kept a general store till 1853, then entered a tract of prairie and timber land in Hickory Precinct, part of which he still owns. In 1853, he opened a general store in Beardstown, and remained there till 1865 then moved to Peoria, Ills., where he carried on business three years. He returned to Beardstown in 1868, and has since been engaged in the real estate, loan, and insurance business there, and has devoted his means largely to improving and building upon his

lots. In Chester, Pa., in 1839, he married Sibylla Birchell, who died in 1841, leaving one son, John H., one of the inventors of the Bell Telephone, and holding previous claims to Bell's, by which, on compromise, he receives an annual stipend of \$10,000. Mr. Irwin married in Springfield, Ills., in 1842, Virginia G. Payne, and from this second marriage there has been one daughter, Ellen. He is a Republican.

L. A. JONES, JR., postmaster, and agent of the O. & M. Railroad, Bluff Springs; was born in Hickory Precinct, this county, Feb. 17, 1847, and is a son of Luther A. and Drusilla C. (Calif) Jones, who were the parents of four children. Luther A. Jones, who is a farmer by occupation, was born in 1813, and now resides in Marshall County, Ill.; he ran the ferry at Beardstown for thirteen years. Louis A., received his education principally in Beardstown, and engaged as agent for the O. & M. Railroad, which position he has held at Bluff Springs for eight years; he also engaged in mercantile business here for a year. In Beardstown, Feb. 23, 1873, he married Rosa Dale, who was born in Frederick, Schnyler Co., Ill., Aug. 3, 1850, daughter of Hickman and Amelia Dale. By this union they have been blessed with four children: Charles F., Luther A., died March 23, 1876, aged ten months, Emma L. and Louis A. Mr. Jones is the present postmaster of Bluff Springs; he is a Republican.

WILLIAM JOCKISCH, retired, Beardstown; was born in Saxony, Germany, March 1, 1829, and in 1833 came with his parents to America, landing in New Orleans, La., after a voyage of eight weeks. Gotthalf Jockisch, our subject's father, was a native of Saxony, and after coming to America, settled on one hundred and sixty acres of land in what is now Arenzville Precinct, this county, and added to his original purchase till he had four hundred and eighty acres of good land.

He died in 1850, aged fifty-five years, leaving an estate worth over twenty-five thousand dollars. His wife, Elizabeth, who died in St. Louis, while on her way to this county, bore him nine children, of whom one died in Saxony. There are five sons living, William being the youngest but one. Our subject received a fair English and German education, and after his father's death purchased a part of the homestead farm, on which he followed farming until 1870, when he built a substantial residence on Sixth street, Beardstown, where he has since lived, giving his family a good education. He still owns two hundred acres of land in Beardstown Precinct; he has been a stockholder and director of the People's Bank, of Beardstown, since its organization. Mr. Jokisch married Nov. 1, 1855, Elizabeth Rahn, a native of Beardstown. They have had five children, two sons and three daughters: Victor, Elizabeth, Annie, Rosa and Rudie.

CHARLES T. JOKISCH, farmer; P. O. Bluff Springs; is a native of Saxony; born Jan. 4, 1822; son of Charles G. and Mary E. (Jacob) Jokisch, also natives of Saxony. Charles G. Jokisch, who was a farmer and distiller, was born June 20, 1796, and died in this county, Oct. 9, 1851; his wife, born in 1794, died in St. Louis, Mo., while on the way to this county, Jan. 24, 1835; they had fifteen children—nine boys and six girls. Charles T. received a fair education, having attended school in Saxony six years. He engaged in the brewery business with his uncle for some time, afterward learned the cooper's and carpenter's trades, and finally became a farmer. In Beardstown, this county, March 27, 1850, he married Mary E. Carls, a native of Hanover, Germany; born Aug. 28, 1834; daughter of John F. and Elizabeth Carls; from this union twelve children have been born: Louis, Phillipena, Edward B., Albert W., George F., Emma, Elizabeth, John Wes-

ley (died March 23, 1870, aged 3 years and one month), Ida E., Richard R., Cornelia P. and Otilia. Mr. Jokisch is a Republican; was Road Supervisor and School Director in 1878, and is at present School Trustee; he is a member of the German Methodist Church.

GOTTHALF JOKISCH, deceased, was born in Saxony, Feb. 22, 1820; son of Charles G. and Mary E. (Jacob) Jokisch, natives of Saxony, and parents of fifteen children, nine boys and six girls. Charles G. Jokisch, born June 20, 1796, was a farmer and distiller, and died in this county Oct. 9, 1851; his wife, born in 1794, died Jan. 24, 1835, in St. Louis, Mo., while on the way to this county. Gotthalf was always a farmer. In this county, Dec. 12, 1846, he married Eleanor Carls, a native of Hanover, Germany, born Nov. 2, 1824, who bore him ten children: Mary, Maurice, Philip, Matilda, Amelia, Edward, Harry, Theophilus (deceased), George (deceased), and Otto (deceased). Mr. Jokisch was a member of the M. E. Church; he was a Republican.

J. LEWIS KUHL, grocer, Beardstown; was born in Beardstown, July 16, 1850, and is half brother of the Kuhl brothers; his father having married at the death of his first wife, Mrs. Heminghouse, who bore him four children: J. Lewis, Mary, Henry, and Lydia. Our subject, after a common school education, took a course at the Central Wesleyan College, Warrenton, Mo., also a partial course at the Illinois Wesleyan University, and a commercial course at the Gem City Business College, graduating from that institution in 1872; after which he clerked for some years for Kuhl Bros. and at Pekin. In 1881, he embarked in the grocery business, on the corner of Sixth and Monroe streets, where he has a fine trade in groceries and queensware. Jan. 23, 1879, he married Miss Emma J. McVey, daughter of Rev. W. H. McVey, of Griggsville, Ill.

JOHN KNIGHT, banker, Beardstown; is a native of Cornwall, England; born Feb. 5, 1838. His father, Thomas Knight, also a native of Cornwall, England, was a cooper, and followed his trade in the town of Cumbren, England, before coming to America. He married Elizabeth Burlase, of Cornwall, England, who bore him three sons and three daughters, John being the youngest son, and fourth child. The children are as follows: Mary, Mrs. D. Bottrell, of Christian Co., Ill.; William J., of Beardstown; Thomas, John (subject); Elizabeth J., Mrs. Chauncey Rice; and Emily, who died at New Orleans, after the voyage from England. Subject's father died in this county, about the year 1867; aged sixty-seven years. His mother, who was born Nov. 25, 1798, died Aug. 21, 1879. Mr. Knight came to the United States in 1846, with his parents, who settled in Beardstown Precinct, and farmed for several years in the Sangamon Bottoms; then bought a farm of 264 acres of land of Abner Foster. He received a good common school education, and became owner of the homestead farm during the late war. He engaged in farming there till 1871, when he rented his lands, and moved to Beardstown. He has been Director of the Cass County Bank four years, and Vice President during the same period. In 1876, he married Augusta, daughter of Henry Theibagt, of this county.

HENRY C. KEIL, hardware merchant, Beardstown; is a native of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany; born Nov. 7, 1848. He learned the tinner's trade, and worked some time at Frankfort-on-the-Main, and came to this country in the spring of 1867. He worked in New York some time, and then came to Jacksonville, Ill., where he remained two years, coming to Beardstown in the fall of 1869, where he remained till 1872, when he went to Europe, and spent a year. On his return he worked at his trade, and in 1876, started for himself,

where he has continued ever since, doing a large and constantly increasing business. In 1880, he bought his present two-story brick building on Main street, and added to his line of stoves and tinware a stock of hardware and farm implements. In 1877, he married Miss Sophia Weiss, daughter of John Weiss, of this county.

GEORGE KUHL, retired, Beardstown; was born Sept. 17, 1807, in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany; son of Christian and Elizabeth (Ganz) Kuhl. Our subject learned the trade of baker, and worked at that for a number of years. In 1833 he came to America, and worked in Richmond, Va., a couple of years, and in 1836 came to Beardstown with his parents. In 1837 he started in the bakery business, which he continued till 1848. He then erected larger warerooms, and bought grain and sacked provisions for many years. In 1861 he built another business room on Main street, and opened a dry goods store, continuing the grocery business in another room. In 1876 Mr. Kuhl retired from business, leaving it in the hands of his sons, George and Philip. In 1838 he married Miss Christiana Becker, who died in 1848, and three sons are living by that marriage. He was again married in 1849, to Mrs. Femmyhouse, and four children have been born to them.

GEORGE S. KUHL, of Kuhl Bros., dealers in dry goods, groceries and notions, Beardstown; is a native of Beardstown, born Aug. 28, 1841, where he received his primary education, finishing at Quincy College. He began clerking in a grocery store when young, and remained at that occupation till 1861, when he enlisted in Co. K., 33d Ill. Vol. Infantry, and served in Missouri two years, under Generals Steele and McClernand. In the spring of 1862, he was detached from the ranks, and served as a clerk in the mustering office for nearly two years, and was discharged in 1864, having served three years. In 1872, he and

his two brothers, William P., and Philip, entered into partnership, and carried on business for five years, when William P. retired from the firm, and George S. and Philip have since carried on the dry goods and grocery business, employing three salesmen. In 1881, the sales in the two departments amounted to \$50,000. In 1868, Mr. Kuhl married Julia E., daughter of James Buck, of Beardstown. They have one son and one daughter.

HENRY KUHLMAN, farmer; P. O., Beardstown; is a native of Germany, born March 23, 1841, son of Gottlieb and Mary (Markman) Kuhlman. His father, who is still living, was born in Prussia, in 1806, and is a farmer. Henry attended school seven years in Germany, where he afterward learned the tailor's trade, at which he worked till he came here, since which time he has followed farming. He served three years in Co. C, 3d Ills. Cavalry, under Colonel Carr. In this county, Feb. 5, 1868, he married Sarah E. Dunn, a native of this county, daughter of John and Caroline Dunn; from this union six children have been born: John W., Albert H., Elizabeth C. (died May 11, 1875,) Frederick C., Edith A., and an infant yet unnamed. Mr. Kuhlman is a Republican and a member of Lodge No. 22, A. O. U. W., in Beardstown; his wife is a member of the M. E. Church.

WILLIAM KUHLMAN, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born in Prussia, Germany, June 19, 1840; son of Gottlieb and Mary (Markman) Kuhlman. His father is still living, and follows the occupation of a farmer; he was born in Prussia in 1806. William received his education in his native land, where he attended school seven years; then began learning the brick-mason's trade, at which he worked in Germany; but since 1860 he has followed farming. In Beardstown, this county, Sept. 14, 1865, he married Nancy J. McLin, born in Morgan County, Ill., Jan. 4, 1844, who has borne him seven children: Ella,

Elizabeth C., Clara M., Harry, Charlie, Myrtle, and Edgar. Mrs. Kuhlman is a member of the M. E. Church; she is a daughter of John and Charity McLin. Mr. Kuhlman is a Republican, and a member of Protection Lodge No. 22, A. O. U. W., in Beardstown, this county.

AUGUST E. KAMMERER, jeweler, Beardstown; was born in Wheeling, Va. (now West Virginia), Aug. 3, 1847, where he received his education. At the age of seventeen he apprenticed to the watchmaker's and jeweler's trade, at which he served four years in his native city, and in 1865, started in business in Little Rock, Ark., where he remained till 1869. He then moved to St. Louis, Mo., where he remained till 1877, when he came to Beardstown, and in 1880 opened his present jewelry store on Main Street.

LYCURGUS S. LEE, farmer; P. O. Bluff Springs; is a native of Maryland, born Sept. 14, 1827, son of Caleb and Matilda (Higgins) Lee, also natives of that State, and parents of ten children. Caleb Lee, who was a farmer, was born in 1789, and died Dec. 10, 1847; his wife was born in 1802, and died in 1875. Lyncurgus S. received his early education in what was then known as "the corner" school-house in Morgan, now Cass County, and began life as a farmer, and has since continued in that occupation on the same home farm. He will have been in this precinct 50 years next October. In this county, Sept. 14, 1854, he married Luvina Ream; born in Morgan County, Ill., in 1833, daughter of John and Catharine Ream; by this union six children have been born: Charles W., Dora A., Mary M., Anna M., Solon S. and Ada T. Mr. Lee has been School Director and Road Commissioner; he is a Republican.

CHRISTIAN T. LAUNER, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born in Pennsylvania, Jan. 30, 1839, and is a son of Frederick and Lydia (Marty) Launer. Frederick Launer, who was

a Lutheran minister, was born in Berne, Switzerland, in 1796, and died in the fall of 1870; he was the first preacher in this county; his wife, also a native of Switzerland, was born in 1830, and died Jan. 4, 1876; they were the parents of seven children. Mr. Launer came with his parents to this county in 1841; he received but a limited education, as he attended school but a short time. He began life as a farmer, and has ever since followed that occupation in this county. He married here March 10, 1870, Josephine Winhold, who was born in Pennsylvania, Sept. 12, 1837; they have had eight children: Bertha, Edward (deceased), Ida, Rosa, Richard, Edwin (deceased), Cora and Robert. Mr. Launer is a member of the Lutheran Church, and a supporter of the Republican party.

DR. H. H. LITTLEFIELD, Beardstown; was born in Wells, York County, Me., Sept. 25, 1823. His parents moved to Great Falls, N. H., when our subject was thirteen years old. After receiving a primary education, he began the study of medicine. In 1843, he came West and taught school two years. In 1846, he attended two courses of medical lectures at Bowdoin College, graduating in 1848, and locating in Beardstown for one year; then removed to Schuyler County, where he lived till 1860, when he returned to Beardstown, where he has since remained, with the exception of two years' service in the Union army, as Assistant Surgeon. He was with Grant's army, and consequently saw much service. He is a member of the Illinois State Medical Society; also of the American Medical Association, since 1875.

JACOB LEBKNECHER, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born in Bavaria, Germany, June 22, 1836; son of Jacob and Margaret (Kohlman) Lebknecher, natives of Germany; he, a farmer by occupation, born in 1812, died D. c. 17, 1838; she, born in 1808, died March

13, 1859; parents of four children. Jacob received his education in Germany, where he attended school seven years, and began the business of life as a cigar-maker in Philadelphia, Pa. He afterward worked for fourteen months in a wholesale tea and coffee house in New York city; then engaged in the brewery business in Peoria, Ill., and was afterward engaged in the same business in Beardstown, this county, thirteen years. He has followed farming in this county eight years. He was married in New York city, Nov. 12, 1859, to Kathrina Burkheiser, a native of Germany, born April 4, 1839, daughter of Karl and Mary A. Burkheiser. They have had nine children: Anna M., Frank J., Charles, Jacob, Lena (deceased), Emma (deceased), William, Katie, and Tillie. He is a Democrat, and a member of Lodge No. 57, A. O. U. W., in Beardstown.

ALEXANDER LAMMERS, merchant, Beardstown; son of William and Mary (Hutmacher) Lammers, was born in Burgsteinport, Prussia, May 28, 1809. At the age of fourteen, he was apprenticed to the trade of carpenter and builder, at which he worked several years in his native country, and in 1836, he came to the United States. He first settled in New York, then in Cleveland, and then in Indiana; after which he went to Mississippi, working at his business, and from there to the mines at Galena, Ills., and Wisconsin. He first visited Beardstown in 1842, but settled there in 1849, and opened a general merchandising business, where he has been ever since, himself and two sons conducting the same. Mr. Lammers has built a large number of business and private buildings in Beardstown, and has been a stockholder in the Cass County Bank since its organization. In 1850, he married Miss Eleonora Christianer, of Beardstown, a native of Germany; and one son and two daughters were born from this marriage; one daughter

living, wife of John Listman. Mrs. Lammers died June 5, 1855. Dec. 24, 1855 he married Anna Maria Eleonora Gersmeyer, of Beardstown, a native of Germany, who bore five children, one of whom died; those living are: Augusta, Alexander, Bertha, and Frank. Mrs. Lammers died Aug. 2, 1849.

HENRY C. MEYER, brick manufacturer and ice dealer; Beardstown; is a native of Prussia, Germany; born Sept. 20, 1835. In 1844, he came to the United States with his parents, who settled on a farm in Knox County, Ind., where he lived till he was twenty-two years of age. He early began to learn brick-making, at which he worked about eight years in Knox County, Ind. In 1857, he came to Beardstown, and started a brick yard near the town, and, after running it one year, took as a partner J. Baujan, and they run the business in company about five years, when Mr. Meyer retired from the business, and bought a farm in Arenzville Precinct, this county, and engaged in farming there about five years. He then resumed brick-making, and has ever since been engaged, more or less extensively, in that business. In 1870, he bought a half interest in the present saw-mill on the bay, and, in company with Mr. Baujan run it for two years; then bought out his partner's interest, and has since run the mill on his own account, employing eight or nine men constantly. The mill cuts on an average 4,000 feet per day. For the past six years Mr. Meyer has been engaged in the ice business, and has four ice houses with a capacity of 6,000 tons; his farm, mill, ice business, and brick-yard, furnish employment for a large force of men. He married Jan. 1, 1863, Amelia, daughter of Lewis Boy, of this county; they have had six children, one deceased. Mr. Meyer is a member of the present City Council; he is a Democrat.

REV. C. R. MORRISON, M. E. minister;

Bluff Springs; was born in Scott County, Ill., Nov. 27, 1852; son of Robert and Alvira A. (Gillham) Morrison. Robert Morrison is a native of Virginia; born Dec. 12, 1811; he is a farmer by occupation, and resides in Fremont County, Ia.; his wife was born in what is now Scott County, Ill., in May, 1821, and was the first female white child born in that county; of their eleven children, five are deceased. Mr. Morrison received his primary education in the country schools; in 1871, he entered a preparatory school in Jacksonville, Ill., and in 1873, entered the Illinois College in that place, where he graduated in 1878, being valedictorian of the graduating class. He afterward spent one year in the Theological Seminary at Evanston, Ill. He began his career as a minister of the M. E. Church, in the Waverly Circuit, Morgan County, Ill., and has ever since been a minister of the gospel. In Jacksonville, Ill., Feb. 2, 1882, he married Margaret Rees, a native of Morgan County, Ill., born June 2, 1863, daughter of Dr. Edwin and Margaret Rees; he, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1810; she, born near Jacksonville, Ill., in 1828. Mrs. Morrison was a graduate of the Illinois Female College class of 1881. Mr. Morrison is a Republican.

WILLIAM H. McCORMICK, distiller, Beardstown; was born in Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 24, 1838, and received his education in his native city. At fourteen years of age he began working as train boy, and at other employments, and at the age of nineteen became conductor of a train running between Indianapolis, Ind., and Cincinnati, O., remaining in that position, on that road, till 1873, with the exception of four years, which he spent in Tennessee. He went to that State in 1863, and was employed as conductor on the Nashville and Chattanooga, and Nashville and Northwestern Railroads till 1866, when he returned to Indianapolis, and was

employed by the company he had formerly worked for as conductor, running between Cincinnati, O., and Lafayette, Ind., until 1873. In that year he retired from railroad-ing, and devoted his attention to the livery business, in Lafayette, Ind., till 1870, when he sold out and removed to Beardstown. He then again engaged in his former occupation of conductor, on the Springfield division of the O. & M. Railroad, until the spring of 1880, when he engaged in the distilling business in Beardstown. In 1858, he married Emma A. Brown, of Indianapolis, Ind.

HENRY MENKE, retired druggist; Beardstown; was born in Bremen, Germany, Dec. 15, 1813; his father was a native of Bremen, Germany, was born Feb. 4, 1780, and died in 1854; his mother, Maria (Lamke) Menke, died in 1847; they came to America in 1834. Of their family, Henry and Mrs. Hoffman are the only survivors. Henry began learning the baker's trade at the age of fourteen, and afterward spent a year and a half learning the brewing business. He came to America with his parents, and settled near Arenzville, in 1834, where his father purchased 200 acres of land, on which our subject lived for about thirteen years. He then, in company with his brother, engaged in the drug business in Beardstown, in 1847, and his brother dying in the fall of that year, he continued the business alone about two years, then sold out to the former proprietor, Dr. T. A. Hoffman, and remained in the employ of the latter ten years; then bought the business back again, and continued it until 1879, when he sold out and retired from business life. He became a stockholder and Director of the Illinois Insurance Company, and was its first President; the charter and name of this company, about two years later, was changed to the Cass County Bank, and Mr. Menke has acted as President of the organization, in all, about ten years. He married, Jan. 12, 1848,

Alice A. Fletcher, a native of Lancashire, England, who died in October, 1873. She bore him three sons, two living—Henry and William Edward. In June, 1874, he married Mrs. Mary Dennis, *née* Osmotherly, a native of Kent, England.

Z. E. MAINE, farmer; P. O., Beardstown; is a native of this county; born in Beardstown Precinct, near the town of Beardstown, March 30, 1849, son of Loderick L. and Sarah (Calif) Maine. Loderick L. Maine was born in Stafford Springs, Conn., March 24, 1786, and is still living; he was a carpenter by trade; his wife was a native of New Hampshire; they had had five children. Our subject attended school in this precinct eleven years, and also two years in Beardstown, and engaged in farming in this precinct, where he has since pursued that occupation, with the exception of two years, 1870-71, which he spent in Iowa. He married in this precinct, Feb. 23, 1869, Ellen McKean, a native of Monroe Precinct, this county, born March 23, 1847, who has borne him three children: Miata (deceased), Lucas A. (deceased), and Minnie. Mrs. Maine is a daughter of John and Nancy McKean; he a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1806; she, a native of West Virginia. Mr. Maine is a Greenbacker, and a member of Lodge No. 23, A. F. and A. M., Beardstown.

EDMUND P. MILLER, livery; Beardstown; was born in Greenburg, Green County, Ky., March 25, 1819; son of Major William and Martha (Winlock) Miller. Major William Miller was born in Virginia in 1790; removed to Green County, Ky., when a boy, and learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked several years; afterward kept hotel in Greenburg, Ky., in Springfield, Ill., and in Jacksonville, Ill. In 1843 he removed to this county, and died in Beardstown in 1864. He served in both campaigns of the Black Hawk War, being captain during the first, and promoted to the rank of Major in the second



campaign; he was a staunch Whig. His wife, who was a native of Virginia, died in 1856, aged sixty-eight years; they have had eight children, six of whom are living: Edmund P. came with his parents to St. Louis, Mo., in 1827, then in 1829, to Jacksonville, Ill., where he resided until 1843; and in the fall of 1844 came to Beardstown, and purchased a farm four miles from the town, and engaged in farming in this precinct until 1881; he owned some of the best farms in the county, and engaged largely in raising grain. He purchased, at the administrator's sale of the effects of the late David Drake, his present livery stables, and does a good livery and feed business; has accommodation for fifty horses. In 1857 he married Catharine, daughter of William Wright, of Schuyler County, Ill.; they have five children living.

PHILIP MILLER, retired; Beardstown; was born in Schoenberg, Hesse-Darmstadt, May 1, 1825. At the age of sixteen he began learning the tailor's trade, in his native State, at which he served three years, then traveled as a journeyman for five years, and in 1850 came to America, and worked two and a half years in the city of New York. In October, 1852, he came to Beardstown, where he conducted a tailor shop for some time, then became cutter for Von Alstine three years, then for E. P. Chase nine years. In 1869, in partnership with William Huppers, under the firm name of Huppers & Miller, he opened a merchant tailoring and clothing house, and after changing their location, they built the business block now occupied by Huppers & Cowen, where they carried on business till February, 1881, when Mr. Miller sold out his interest in the stock and building, and retired from active business life, on account of failing health. In November, 1855, he married Sarah, daughter of Joseph Ruff, of Beardstown.

WILLIAM F. MOHLMANN; Beards-

town; was born in the village of Häfer, Province of Minden, Prussia, Dec. 12, 1836, and came to this country when thirteen years of age, with his father, who settled at Beardstown in 1849. He learned the carpenter's trade; also studied architecture. His father was a cabinet-maker, and was born in 1813, his wife being Miss Anna Teilkemeyer, and raised four children, W. F. being the oldest. The father died Jan. 10, 1882. He served as alderman, and was a member of the Lutheran Church for thirty-three years. Our subject in 1875 bought the furniture factory of his father, and carried on the business there till January, 1882, when he moved into the building, which he erected in 1881, on the corner of Jefferson and Second Sts., where he keeps a large and well-assorted stock of furniture. He also attends to the undertaking business. In 1858 he married Miss Lydia Looman, of Beardstown, and has three sons and three daughters living.

CHARLES J. NORBURY, merchant and salesman, Beardstown; was born in Philadelphia, Pa., May 22, 1812, and at seventeen years of age entered a commission house in that city, and was afterward in a wholesale dry goods house there till 1836. In April of that year he came to Beardstown, where for four years he managed the receiving and shipping business for Mr. Bassett, who did an extensive forwarding and commission business, chiefly in pork, lard and grain. In 1840, Mr. Norbury bought a wharf boat, and engaged in the receiving and shipping business, on his own account, for several years; then carried on a boat store, supplying packets with provisions, etc., for three or four years. About the year 1855 he became a member of the firm of George Plahn & Co., with which he was connected in the general merchandising business, for fourteen years. He then engaged in the same business on his own account, till 1874, and for the past five

years has been employed as salesman for Rearick & Beatty. In January, 1839, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Thomas Spence; they have had thirteen children, two of whom are deceased.

WILLIAM C. NOLTE, grain merchant, Bluff Springs; was born in Beardstown, Nov. 15, 1844; only child of Louis H. and Mary (Boldt) Nolte, natives of Germany. Louis H. Nolte, who was a carpenter by trade, died in October, 1846; his widow, who is still living, was born in October, 1807. Mr. Nolte attended school in Beardstown till he was fourteen years of age, and then began life as a farmer; afterward he learned the cooper's trade, and worked on the C. B. & Q. and the O. & M. Railroads, for some time. During the late war he served ten months in Co. A., 65th Ill. Vols., under Captain McClellan. He married, Oct. 4, 1866, Mary M. Jaques, born Jan. 13, 1849, who has borne him five children: Ellen E., Louis W., Harry F., Carrie A. and Maud M. Mrs. Nolte is a daughter of William C. and Elizabeth A. Jaques, natives of Pennsylvania; he, born April 25, 1822; she, born Jan. 19, 1830. Mr. Nolte is a member of Lodge No. 97, Grand Army of the Republic, in Beardstown; he is a Republican.

J. W. NEWBURNE, farmer and gardener; was born in Glassboro, N. J., June 10, 1846; only surviving child of a family of nine, born to John and Lydia (Simmerman) Newburne, natives of New Jersey. John Newburne, subject's father, was born in 1816, and engaged in the manufacture of glass, and also in farming, and at present resides in Glassboro, N. J., retired from active life; his wife was born in 1820. J. W. resided in his native town till he was twelve years of age, when he removed to Clayton, N. J., then called Fislertown, where he attended school until 1864, then taught school until he was twenty-two years of age. In 1868 he married

Rebecca, daughter of John and Martha Fleming, of Paulsboro, N. J., and in 1869 settled near Beardstown, this county, where, seven years after, Mrs. Newburne died, leaving two children—twins. In 1875 he returned to New Jersey, where he married Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Zane, of Glassboro, N. J., and returned to this county the same year. He makes a specialty of raising melons and sweet potatoes, and has met with good success. He shipped the first forty barrels of sweet potatoes by boat to Chicago, and afterward the first car-load shipped from this county to that city. He has one child living, Harry Walter, the other, Emily Luella, having died when one year old. Mrs. Newburn's father was born in Philadelphia, Penn., in 1812, and for many years followed the trade of glass-blowing, but of late years has engaged in farming.

PEOPLE'S BANK was organized in April, 1877, as a private banking institution. Its first Board of Directors were John H. Harris, John H. Hagener, William Jockisch, J. A. Arenz, S. L. Calif. The capital stock was \$10,000, originally, and in less than five years returned in dividends seventy per cent of its capital stock, besides a reserve of \$1,500. Feb. 1, 1882, the capital stock was increased to \$15,000, at the same time establishing a branch bank at Arenzville. John H. Harris and T. R. Condit are, and have been since its organization, President and Cashier, respectively, of the institution. The present Directors are Harris, Hagener, Schultz, Jockisch, and Saylor. A. J. Saylor is President, and C. H. Condit, Cashier, of the branch at Arenzville. Mr. Thomas H. Condit was born in Winchester, Scott County, Ill., on Feb. 11, 1856, and at the age of seventeen commenced as book-keeper in First National Bank, at Winchester. In 1874 he came to Beardstown, and took the position of cashier of a private bank; in 1877 was elected cashier of

the People's Bank, and still holds that position. He married, in February, 1877, Miss Hattie Dutch, daughter of John R. Dutch, of Beardstown.

WILLIAM H. PASCHALL, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born in Hancock County, Ill., May 4, 1840; and is a son of Coleman and Sarah (Street) Paschall, natives of Tennessee, and parents of eleven children; he, a farmer by occupation, born in 1809, died in April, 1852; she, born in 1810, died in 1863. Mr. Paschall received a fair education, and has always been a farmer in this county, where, Dec. 24, 1863, he married Emeline Dunn, daughter of John Dunn, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work; she was born in this county June 30, 1845, and died Sept. 2, 1872; from this marriage four children were born: Harriet E., William Robert (deceased), John Albert, and Mary A. Mr. Paschall married in December, 1873, Mary A. Dunn, sister of his first wife, born in this county March 13, 1843; from this marriage there has been born one child, Myrtle. He is a member of the M. E. Church, and a Republican.

HERMAN PHILIPPI, farmer; Beardstown; was born in this county, April 23, 1844; son of Pompeius Philippi, whose biography appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. Philippi received his education chiefly in Arenzville, and has always been a farmer in this county. He married April 9, 1870, Mary Weinhold, a native of this county; born March 2, 1847, daughter of William and Barbara Weinhold; to this union five children have been born: Lena, born May 14, 1871; Emma and Emil (twins), born May 14, 1874; Lula, born Dec. 23, 1878; and Laura, born Sept. 12, 1879. Emil died Sept. 3, 1874. Mr. Philippi is a supporter of the Republican party.

STARK H. PHELPS, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; is a native of Bertie County, N. C., born Nov. 2, 1847; son of William H.

and Martha (Measels) Phelps; parents of seven children. William H. Phelps was born in North Carolina, Feb. 2, 1817, and is still living; he is a cooper by trade. Stark H. received his education in this county, and began life as a farmer, which occupation he still pursues. In this precinct, Jan. 30, 1878, he married Clara M. Hager; born Dec. 10, 1861, daughter of Lyman and Cornelia (Spalding) Hager; he, a native of New Hampshire, born Aug. 30, 1828; she, a native of Indiana, born Jan. 15, 1833, died Dec. 23, 1878. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps have had three children: Herbert E. (died Nov. 10, 1878), Charles E. and Olive M. Mr. Phelps is a Republican; he is a member of Lodge No. 16, I. O. O. F. in Beardstown, and is connected with the M. E. Church.

C. E. PARKER, Physician, Beardstown; was born in Amherst, Hillsboro Co., N. H., Oct. 4, 1813. He entered Dartmouth College in 1830, and graduated in 1834. He then entered upon a course of medical study: first in Dartmouth, then Harvard, and graduated from Yale Medical Department in 1837. He located at the Insane Asylum, at Pepperell, Mass., where he remained until 1855, himself and uncle being proprietors of the establishment; also engaged in general practice. In 1855, he came to Beardstown, and with the exception of six or seven years in the drug business in Springfield, has practiced in Beardstown. The Doctor is a member of the Illinois Medical Society, and is known and recognized as one of the oldest practitioners of his profession in the State.

JOHN F. PAPPMEIER, jeweler, Beardstown; was born in Hanover, Germany, Jan. 13, 1830, and came to this country with his parents when four years of age, settling in the fall of 1833, on a farm near Beardstown where, three years later, Peter Pappmeier, the father, died. Mrs. Pappmeier afterward married John F. Heinkel, who raised our subject,

and who worked on the farm till twenty-one years of age, when he came to Beardstown and served three years at the jewelry trade, but his sight failing, he went back to the farm. In the meantime his stepfather and his mother had both died. In 1856, he commenced repairing watches, and keeping a small stock of jewelry, and although located six blocks from the business center, such has been the quality of his work, that he has been exceedingly successful. In 1876, he built a fine brick store and residence; keeps constantly employed three persons, and carrying a large stock of clocks, watches, jewelry, silverware, etc. In 1851 he married Miss Eliza, daughter of Clamor Tiemeyer, of Beardstown Precinct, and he has two sons and two daughters: John A., H. Lewis, Katie E., wife of John H. Hagner; and Eida. One son and two daughters are dead. He owns two fine farms, and is also interested in the culture of bees, having an apiary containing 130 swarms.

NORMAN PARSONS, postmaster, Beardstown; was born in Enfield, Hartford County, Ct., November 6, 1811, and went to Ohio with his father in 1815. At the age of sixteen he was apprenticed to the tannery trade, and followed that occupation for many years, at Chardon, O., running a tannery of his own until 1854; also conducting a store, a farm, and operating in the real estate business. He was a Colonel of Militia, and a Justice of the Peace, and was Vice-President of the first Anti-Slavery Society of Geauga County, and which was organized by Joshua Giddings and Theodore W. Wells, in 1848. In 1854, Mr. Parsons came to Beardstown, where he was engaged in the wagon-making and blacksmithing business for several years; he also opened a farm and improved it. In 1861, he enlisted in the Third Illinois cavalry, and served until the close of the war; was with Fremont and Curtis until after the fall of Vicksburg; was mustered out as Orderly,

having been Sergeant, Commissary Sergeant, etc.; was in the campaign in front of Richmond; was in the battles of Pea Ridge, First Vicksburg, Walnut Hill, Arkansas Post, Nashville, and many minor engagements; also, on recruiting service. Exposure incidental to life in the army injured Mr. Parsons to such extent as to disable him for active labor since. In 1869, he was appointed Postmaster at Beardstown, which position he yet ably and acceptably fills. In 1836 he married Miss Fannie A. King, of Ohio, and two sons were born to them: Melbourne N. and William E. Mrs. Parsons died in 1850; and in 1856 Mr. Parsons married Mrs. Sarah C. Saunders, of Beardstown. Both his sons, and a step-son served in the late war. Has been a Congregationalist and Methodist for over fifty years.

MELBOURNE N. PARSONS, assistant postmaster, Beardstown; was born in Chardon, Geauga County, O., April 30, 1841, and when thirteen years old, came to Beardstown, and apprenticed to the jeweler's trade, with John Putman, with whom he worked for four years and three months; then engaged in farming. On Aug. 19, 1862, he enlisted in Co. C, 72d Ill. Vol. Infantry, for three years, his company forming a part of the 1st Board of Trade Regiment, raised by postmaster Scripps, of Chicago, and participated in a number of important engagements during his term of service, and after being confined by sickness to the Nashville hospital, from November, 1864, to May, 1865, he was discharged. On his return from the army he began working at the painter's trade, which he had learned when a boy, and followed painting until 1874, when he became assistant postmaster, under his father. On March 21, 1861, he married Emma F. Ward, of Athens, Ill., who died Nov. 18, 1880. By this marriage four children were born, two of whom are living, viz.: Jennie and Willie. April 10,

1882, he married Mrs. Loretta H. Robinson, of Augusta, Ill. William E. Parsons was born in Chardon, Ohio, in November, 1813; enlisted in April, 1861, in the 14th Ill. Infantry, in the three months' service, and at the end of that time re-enlisted in Co. A, of the same regiment, for three years. He was poisoned at Rolla, Mo., in 1862, and came home, and at the end of three months, joined his regiment, participated in several important engagements, and after being confined to the Memphis hospital about six months, was discharged in 1864, and after returning home, died March 17, 1864.

JOHN E. PUTMAN, jeweler, Beardstown; was born near Rushville, Schuyler Co., Ill., April 20, 1846; son of W. B. G. and Martha (Elkins) Putman, he, a native of New York State, she, of Vermont. John E. received his education in Rushville, and in January, 1866, went to Racine, Wis., where he apprenticed to the jeweler's trade, with his uncle, John Elkins, and served three years, and Feb. 25, 1869, came to Beardstown, and bought the jewelry store of H. Christianer, and remained in business till August, 1875; then sold out, and dealt in land for a time; bought a hardware store in Beardstown, in exchange for land, and conducted the business for some time, under the firm name of J. E. Putman & Co. He then secured a patent for an improvement on seat guards for harvesters, which has proved remunerative, and he is still interested in the introduction of his invention in different States and territories. March 1, 1882, he opened a jewelry store in Beardstown, and is doing a good trade. He owns about 1,000 acres of land in this county, some in Schuyler County, and some in Nebraska. He married Emma, eldest daughter of Dr. F. Ehrhardt (deceased), April 20, 1871, and as issue of this union there were born four sons, two of whom are living: George, aged eight, and Ralph, aged five years. Mr.

Putman was elected Alderman of second ward, Beardstown, in 1879, and served one year; elected Mayor in 1880, and served one year in that capacity. He is a Republican.

CHRISTIAN PILGER, of Pilger & Hüge, merchant tailors and clothiers, Beardstown; was born in Waldeck, Prussia, in April, 1836, and at the age of fourteen apprenticed to the tailor's trade, at which he served two and one-half years. He then traveled for some time as a journeyman, and in June, 1855, came to this country and located at Beardstown, where he worked on a farm a short time, then worked at his trade in St. Louis two years; returned to Beardstown in 1857, and worked at his trade till 1873, with the exception of three years, during which he served as a soldier in the late war. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Co. A, 114th Ills. Vol. Infantry, which joined the Army of the Tennessee at Memphis, under General Logan, and remained in active service till August, 1865, when he was mustered out at Vicksburg, Miss.; during his term of service he participated in the engagements round Memphis, Messenger's Ford, Jackson, Miss., and Brandon; and in the pursuit of General Price. In 1873, he became a partner in the firm of Garm & Pilger, in Beardstown, and carried on a merchant tailoring and clothing business under that name till 1875, when he became sole proprietor and carried on the business alone till Feb. 1, 1882, when he took in his present partner, W. F. Hüge, the business being since conducted under the firm name of Pilger & Hüge. Mr. Pilger married in 1858, Margaret, daughter of Jacob Schuman.

ANTON RINK, brewer, Beardstown; was born in Bavaria, Germany, August 9, 1838, and in 1850 came to this country with his parents, who settled on a farm in Perry County, Mo. Anton remained on the farm about eight years, when his father died,

and he went to St. Louis, Mo., where he began learning the brewing business with Kunz & Hoffmeister, with whom he worked till 1860, then worked in a brewery in Peoria, Ill., till 1864. In August of that year he came to Beardstown, and with a partner bought a small brewery on La Fayette street, which they ran under the firm name of A. Rink & Co., till 1867, then built the present three story brick building, 42x147 feet, at a cost of \$20,000, and continued business until February, 1874, when the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Rink becoming sole proprietor, and he has since conducted the business with good success. The establishment, which has a capacity of fifty barrels per day, employs from six to ten men; about 1877, Mr. Rink established bottling works; he also manages a retail liquor store on Park Row; his ice houses have a capacity of 2,000 tons. In 1865 Mr. Rink married Margaretha Schultz, of Beardstown; they have five children living.

HENRY RUPPEL, dealer in boots and shoes, Beardstown; was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, Jan. 28, 1836. At the age of fourteen he began learning the shoemaker's trade, at which he served three years' apprenticeship. He then worked about six months at Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany, afterward conducting a shop in his native village till 1854, when he emigrated to this country. He worked at his trade for a time in New York City, and at Rushville, New York, and after working at various occupations in different places, found employment at his trade in Rochester, N. Y. He left there in January, 1856, and came, by way of Chicago, to Springfield, Ill., and worked as journeyman there until December, 1857, when he visited his native country, returning the following year to Springfield, Ill., where he worked for his former employer till 1859. He then carried on a custom shop

in Springfield, where, in 1860, he married Elizabeth Weigand, who was born in his native village, Hesse-Darmstadt. In 1861, by the failure of the Illinois banks, he lost \$400, and again worked as a journeyman until 1869, when, in March, that year, he came to Beardstown, where he and his brother, Adam, bought a stock of boots and shoes, and carried on business in company till 1873, when Henry bought out his brother's interest, and since January, 1880, has occupied his present place of business, carrying a large stock of boots and shoes, also doing repairing. His store, which is sixty-five by twenty-two feet, is one of the finest in Beardstown. Mr. Ruppel has six children living.

F. G. I. RATCLIFF, baker, Beardstown; is a native of Staffordshire, England; born March 5, 1823. At the age of eighteen he began learning the baker's trade, in Newcastle, Eng., to which he served an apprenticeship of three and a half years. He worked at his trade at Liverpool, and at other places till 1849, when he came to this country, worked a short time in Troy, N. Y., afterward worked at Andover, Henry County, Ills., about six months, then went to New Orleans, La., then to Baton Rouge, where he was pastry cook in a hotel four years. In 1854, he opened a bakery in Rock Island, Ills., which he carried on there three years, then came to Beardstown, where he has since carried on the bakery business, doing the principal wholesale trade of the town; he is assisted by his two sons, Richard and Thomas. Mr. Ratcliff is also proprietor of a barber shop; he cooked the first meal served in the Park House, and held the position of cook there till 1863, when he paid a visit to his native country. In Mobile, Ala., in 1852, he married Rebecca Morrow, who has borne him ten children, five of whom are living.

CHAUNCEY RICE, druggist, Beardstown; was born in St. Lawrence County,

N. Y., February 21, 1830, and in 1842 came, with his parents, to Williams County, O. In 1846, removed to Hancock County, Ill., where he engaged in farming till the fall of 1849, and taught school two winters. In the summer of 1850 he entered the drug store of James G. McCreary, of Rushville, Ill., and clerked for six years. In 1856, he came to Beardstown, and entered into partnership with E. R. Maxwell, in the drug business there. They conducted a drug store under the firm name of Rice & Maxwell, till 1865, when Mr. Rice bought out his partner's interest; afterward bought out the stock of Henry Menke, and is conducting the two drug stores in his own name, his son James G., managing one store. He has occupied his present site, on Park Row, for twenty-three years. Mr. Rice has been twice married. In Hancock County, Ill., in the fall of 1852, he married Emily J. Denny, of Augusta, Ill., who died in July, 1878, leaving three children: James G., Mrs. H. J. Nead, of Nebraska, and Chauncey J. In 1879, he married Elizabeth J. Knight, of Beardstown. James G. Rice, son of our subject, was born in Rushville, Ill., in 1853, and at thirteen years of age began clerking in his father's drug store, remaining in the same store thirteen years; and in 1879 he became a member of the firm, and took charge of a branch store on Main street, which he has since conducted with good success. He married, March 6, 1882, Eva Shutts, of Camanche, Iowa.

HENRY ROTES, grocer, Beardstown; was born in Beardstown, Aug. 4, 1849. His father, Henry Rotes, was born in Oldenburg, Germany, about 1811; emigrated to America, and worked for a cotton planter some time, then came to Beardstown, where he married Mrs. Mary Nolte, *née* Bolte, of that town, who bore him two children, viz.: Henry (subject), and Carrie, both living. Subject's father died about the year 1869. Mr. Rotes, at eighteen

years of age, began farming on a part of his father's place, and followed that occupation till 1876, when he engaged in the grocery business with J. L. Black, under the firm name of Black & Rotes, for two years, when Mr. Rotes sold out his interest in the business to his partner, and until May, 1880, worked in the boiler shops of the C. B. & Q. R. R., when he purchased the grocery business of J. L. Black, on Main street, and has since been engaged in that business, meeting with good success.

HENRY RICKS, saloon, Beardstown; was born near Hamilton Station, this county, Sept. 12, 1850, and is a son of Conrad and Juliana (Landmann) Ricks, natives of Germany. Conrad Ricks, a farmer by occupation, was born Nov. 20, 1815, and died July 10, 1877. His wife was born June 3, 1812, and died Aug. 29, 1877. They had five children, two boys and three girls. Our subject received his education in the "Warrior School," near Bluff Springs, this county, and also attended the Beardstown school. He farmed for several years near Bluff Springs, and has for the past six years been keeping a saloon in Beardstown. In Virginia, this county, Feb. 5, 1876, he married Minnie Vellor, a native of this county, born May 24, 1857. They have three children, viz.: John H., William G., and Odelia. Mrs. Ricks is a daughter of Frederick and Mary Vellor; he, a farmer, born Feb. 24, 1814; she, born Oct. 30, 1830; both in Germany. Mr. Ricks is a Democrat. His father came to this county in 1842.

W. H. RHINEBERGER, carpenter and builder, Beardstown; was born in Marietta, O., June 10, 1844. His father was born in New York State, June 12, 1816; was raised in Wheeling, W. Va., and has been a resident of this county since 1846; he is a carpenter by trade, and is now engaged as a contractor and builder in Ashland, this county. He has been twice married; his first wife, Julia Dunham, whom he married in Virginia,

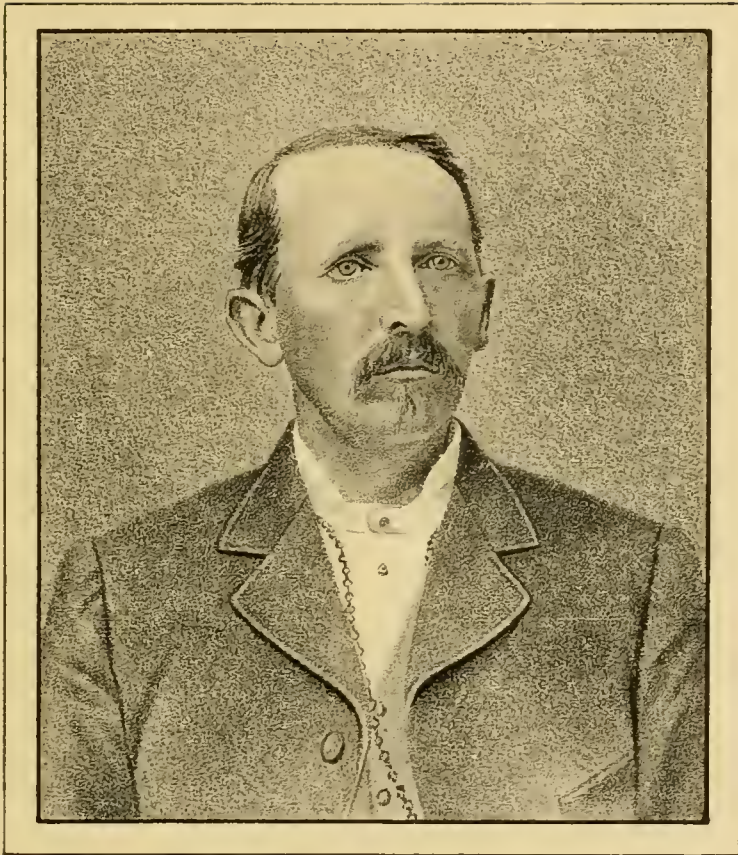
died in Marietta, O., leaving three sons, of whom W. H. is the youngest; his second wife, Mrs. Martha Morrow, whom he married in Beardstown, has borne him five children. The subject of this sketch came to Beardstown in 1846, with his father and grandfather, who settled on the land where the Central Hotel now stands. June 28, 1861, he enlisted in the Twenty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, of which Grant was colonel, and served three years, participating in the engagements at Fredericktown, Mo., Resaca, Stone River, and Chickamauga. He received a flesh wound in the neck at Kingston, Ga., May 19, 1864, and on July 9, that year, was mustered out at Chattanooga, Tenn. After his return from the war, he learned the carpenter's trade with his father, and in 1867 went to Linn County, Kan., where he owned a farm, and worked at his trade for eight years. He returned to Beardstown in 1875, where he has since been a contractor and builder, employing from two to ten men on his contracts. He has been twice married; May 29, 1867, he married Nannie Richards, of this county, who died May 13, 1879, leaving four children, of whom two daughters are living. June 7, 1882, he married Delia Clark.

W. C. REW, merchant, Bluff Springs; is a native of this county; born Jan. 21, 1845, in an old log house, on the Springfield road, built by his grandfather, one of the first houses in this county. He is a son of Bradford B. and Julia Ann Rew; he, a native of New York, born Jan. 12, 1816; died in Beardstown, this county; she, born in Ohio, Aug. 25, 1821; resides in this county with her daughter, Josephine Decker. W. C. attended a school near Beardstown six or eight years, and about two years in Beardstown; afterward worked on a farm, and then taught school for about five years. He married in Quincy, Ill., May 2, 1875, Josephine Weber, who was born in

this county, Nov. 5, 1855. They lived in Quincy about eight months, after which he entered into partnership with Oliver Decker, in the general merchandising business here. Jan. 1, 1879, he bought out Mr. Decker's interest, and has since carried on the business on his own account. In 1864, he enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Forty-fifth Ill. Infantry, under Capt. William Weaver, and after serving five months was obliged to return home on account of ill health. Mr. and Mrs. Rew have had two children: Mabel, born Nov. 30, 1879, and Henry B., born March 7, 1882; died March 21, 1882. Mr. Rew is a Democrat; is township School Treasurer of this township (No. 18), and has for many years been a member of Lodge No. 16, I. O. O. F., in Beardstown; his wife is a member of the Methodist Church.

HON. J. HENRY SHAW, attorney-at-law, Beardstown, was born in Boston, Mass., July 25, 1825. His father, Joseph Shaw, had been a book-publisher of that city, but, meeting with financial reverses, and possessed with but small means, in 1836 he removed to Morgan County, Illinois, which then included Cass County, and settled near Jacksonville, where he pursued farming a few years, and afterward, merchandising at Beardstown, where he died in 1868. While he was living and working upon his father's farm as a boy in 1837, Henry received three weeks' instruction at a country school, in which he obtained the elements of the arts of reading and writing, which was all the school education he ever received; this was not because his father did not appreciate the advantages of an education, but because all the assistance that could be obtained was necessary to carry on the farm, and Henry's education was put off for a more convenient season; the school which he attended for so short a term, was held in a log cabin in Diamond Grove,





*Frank Lohmann*



near Jacksonville. There was a good school at that time in Jacksonville, and Illinois College was in infantile operation, but Henry was needed to help work the farm, and seemed destined by circumstances to grow up in ignorance; but it is a way that self-made men have, to control and direct, or at least divert, circumstances. His father, being a practical printer, was frequently called from his farm to assist a friend, Mr. Edwards, in publishing the *Illinois Patriot*, a Jacksonville newspaper, and brought home many of the newspaper exchanges from the *Patriot* office; these were eagerly perused by Henry; his taste for reading increased with his opportunities, and having no books of his own, and no money to buy any with, he borrowed of whoever had them who were willing to lend; his time being occupied in working on the farm in fair weather, his reading opportunities were restricted to rainy days, Sundays, and nights; often while the family were sleeping he was spending the silent hours of the night in the little attic between the ceiling and roof of his father's log cabin, poring over a borrowed book by a dim light made by a cotton rag and lard or butter in a saucer. Whenever his occupation was of such a nature as to allow of it, he carried a book with him, and read at intervals while the team rested, and generally held a book in his hand and read while plowing—a seemingly difficult task, but yet not so with him; he generally carried something to read or write upon wherever he went, and improved his leisure moments. Mills were scarce in Illinois in those days, and one of the valuable uses that young Shaw was put to, was to go on horseback with a sack of corn and get it ground at some distant mill; Henry, riding upon the top of the sack, was usually lost in the mazes of his borrowed book; he was habituated to reading whenever he had a minute that could be utilized for that purpose, and felt unhappy if he

sat down even for a moment with nothing to read; he read everything he could get hold of, even scraps of newspapers and old almanacs, and used to say that he learned something from every scrap of paper that had any reading on it. He was also in the habit of writing down everything that occurred to him as of sufficient importance, both original and selected. As writing paper cost money, and he had no money to buy it with, he utilized the margins of newspapers, the blank leaves of books, and made marginal notes to such books as he was able to purchase. The other boys in his neighborhood, having neither knowledge nor the desire for it, other than for those things that appertained to the usual avocations and pleasures of life, derided him for his peculiarities, and he avoided, so far as he could, being seen by them with a book. Even the men shook their heads forebodingly at him, and said that if he kept on in this course he would some day try and get his living without work and come to a bad end. Indeed, book learning was contemptuously spoken of by the country people, and it was not uncommon for justices of the peace and preachers to be without the qualifications of reading and writing. The most of his youthful life was passed in this manner, during which time he had read largely in history, ancient and modern classics, and general literature and intelligence, and had begun to attract attention, not only for what he knew, but for his ability to express himself in good language, either orally or in writing, on any occasion, and frequently before he was twenty years old, made speeches on public occasions. He also, while yet a mere plow-boy, wrote articles for the newspapers, which attracted the attention of public men, and although they appeared without signature, inquiries were made and the writer was sometimes made known. It was by means of his newspaper articles that Richard Yates, then just

entering upon his public career, was attracted toward him, and the acquaintance thus formed subsequently ripened into a friendship. He also cultivated a taste for writing poetry, much of which was suggested by public occasions in his vicinity, and many songs that were sung at festivals were of his production, but the author was seldom known by those who enjoyed them, as he had a dread of being sneered at as a country poet. One of his articles, which was published in the *Jacksonville Journal*, under his usual *nom de plume* of "Hal Heryn," during the war with Mexico, is here inserted as a fair specimen of his boyish muse. The subject was suggested to him by reading a letter from a soldier in the army, from Morgan county:

#### THE MORGAN SOLDIER.

REFRAIN: "Bingen on the Rhine."

"While we were camped on the Rio Grande, A. G. S. died: a noble soul as ever bore musket. His last murmurings were of somebody by the name of Mary—his sister, I believe, in Morgan county."—*Taken from a Soldier's Letter.*

Where the moonbeams shimmer brightly  
 Upon the silvery sand,  
 And the little waves flow lightly  
 Along the Rio Grande;  
 Where the breeze a requiem weaves  
 Among the wildwood leaves,  
 And the star-robed river, gently,  
 To the summer wind upheaves,  
 And dew-tears, pearl-like, nestle  
 In meek-eyed flowers around,  
 Like fragile spirits drooping  
 With sorrow to the ground;  
 There lay a dying soldier,  
 His life fast ebbing forth,  
 And he had come from Morgan,  
 Old Morgan in the North.  
 Worn and wasted were his features  
 With a long-enduring pain,  
 And with incoherent murmurs  
 Hard he sought to speak, in vain.  
 Low and sad I bent me o'er him,

And I scarce could hear him say  
 That his heart, though weak and blighted,  
 Was upon the northern way.  
 Then he whispered of a cottage  
 In the distant prairie-land;  
 And he said a weeping sister  
 Beckoned with a gentle hand:  
 I fancied that he said his sister,  
 But it might have been his bride;  
 She was far away in Morgan—  
 Old Morgan, Honor's pride.  
 He would show to me a treasure,  
 All he had to cheer him there;  
 'Twas a little heart-shaped ringlet  
 Of his sister's silken hair;  
 In his hand he held it, fondling,  
 And essayed to speak a name;  
 But the leaves and wavelets murmured,  
 And I sought to hear in vain.  
 The stars looked down: the soldier died  
 Upon the Rio Grande.  
 His last look toward his sister's home  
 Far in the prairie-land:  
 Perchance 'twas not his sister,  
 His bride it might have been:  
 She was far away in Morgan—  
 Old Morgan, tressed with green.

Upon arriving at the age of twenty-one years, Henry, at the suggestion of Richard Yates, began the study of law, Mr. Yates lending him the necessary books, and encouraging him with kind words to proceed. These books he took, one at a time, and read them at home while working on the farm. The same plan he had pursued with his boyish studies, he continued while preparing for his professional life. He utilized the nights and rainy days. Every spare moment found him with a book in his hands. He has a well-worn copy of "Gould's Pleadings," which he read over and over while he was plowing, holding the book in one hand and guiding the plow with the other, while the horses were held in place by a line over his shoulder and under one arm. He became so attached to this book that Mr. Yates presented it to him, and it was the first law-book

he ever owned. He occasionally reported progress to his friend, and received further encouragement, but never recited a lesson to him, or received any instruction beyond a recommendation of the proper books to read. When he became twenty-five years of age, notwithstanding he had continuously labored on a farm, he felt sufficiently advanced in his studies to warrant him in applying for a license to practice law, and with Mr. Yates he went to Springfield, where he was examined by the Judges of the Supreme Court, and admitted to the bar. He then removed to Beardstown, and commenced the practice of the law, where he has ever since remained. During his many years of practice, he continued as before, a laborious student. He has not confined himself wholly to the law, but has wandered into the by-paths of literature, and has contributed many able articles to magazines, newspapers, law-journals, etc. As an orator, he has taken a front rank, and at the bar has met but few superiors in the later years of his practice. In 1873 he met with an irreparable misfortune, which, at least in a measure, blighted his further aspirations. By severe professional labor, he brought on himself a slight attack of paralysis, and although he was confined to his room but a few days, yet it was an imperative notice to him that his constitution had begun to give way under the constant mental strain it had been subjected to, and that he must change his laborious life to a more quiet and less ambitious one. He was then but forty-eight years old, in the prime of life, and at a time when he might reasonably claim a reward for his past labors and perseverance; he was warned in this solemn manner, that he must retire to the shade trees, and rest among the weary toilers, who had borne the heat and burdens of the field. This unfortunate occurrence grieved and disappointed him, as he was ambitious of further distinction among

his compeers, and hoped to rise to a position among the highest. But this result can hardly excite surprise, when we consider the circumstance of his past life. Perhaps no man ever achieved an education and position under such apparently insurmountable difficulties, and no young lawyer ever had a brighter array of competitors for business and glory than he. He found practicing in the courts where he must practice, such men as Lincoln, Douglas, Baker, Yates, Richardson, McConnell, Blackwell, Browning, Williams, Walker, Smith, Brown, Dunmer, and a host of stars of only a degree lesser magnitude, and among these giants he was compelled to parry and thrust with his home-made sword. But, notwithstanding his wading through Scylla and Charybdis, he had strength and nerve enough to throw stones even at the Cyclops. At the time he was stricken with paralysis, he was getting his cases ready for the August term of the Cass Circuit Court, 1873, and was also preparing an historical address for a meeting of the "old settlers" of Cass, Brown and Schuyler Counties. The attack began ten days before court, the busiest time in the life of a lawyer. At the sitting of the court, although he was present, his brother lawyers kindly attended to his business for him, and his friends and physician advised him not to deliver the address at the "old settlers" meeting, but as he had expended much labor in its preparation, he concluded to deliver it, which he did at great risk of a relapse. He then spent some months at the eastern sea-coast and mountains, and returned home much refreshed. Since then, by advice of his physicians, he has avoided the more exciting and litigious practice, and confined himself mostly to office business and consultations. He continues to read extensively, and sometimes writes for the press; his mental powers are unimpaired, and his knowledge

of the history and present condition of the nations and peoples of the world is remarkable. While he has mingled much in political controversies, both on the rostrum and in the public journals, yet he has never made any effort to obtain office, and although he is now the representative of the counties of Cass, Brown, Menard and Mason, in the State legislature, yet it was without his own solicitation. As a legislator, he is noted for his ability and strict regard for duty; and in the committees to which he belongs, particularly the "Judiciary," and "Canals and Rivers," two of the most important, he is influential and indefatigable in his labors, and constant in his attendance. During the session of 1880, 1881, and the special session of 1882, he labored for the improvement of the great water-ways of the State, originating a bill to enable steamboats to pass from St. Louis to Chicago, offering competition to the railroads of the State, and thus securing to producers cheap transportation. As a testimonial of his eminent services we insert the following resolution, passed at the Cass County Democratic Convention, held in Virginia, July 1, 1882. "Whereas, The Hon. J. Henry Shaw has ably and honorably represented this the XXXVITH Senatorial District as a member of the last General Assembly of Illinois, be it *Resolved* by this Convention, that we endorse his action and conduct in said last General Assembly, and trust that as an endorsement of his action he may be returned to the next General Assembly as our representative." Previous to the year 1873, he led a very active life. Not a minute was allowed to be wasted. He gave his time and labor freely to public matters, without remuneration frequently making speeches or writing for the papers, in aid of railroad building and other enterprises, and for the advancement of the interests of the people. He wrote and published many historical sketches local to the

Mississippi Valley, and at one time contemplated, and had in course of preparation, a history of Illinois; but the publication of Davidson and Stuve's excellent work about that time, caused him to abandon this project. His story is simple and short, but it has points worthy of record. It shows that even a small boy may form a resolution which will be a magnet and polar star to him through life. That teachers, schools and colleges may be convenient for the indolent, and advantageous as a luxury, but are not absolutely necessary to any one who is determined to get an education without them. That a person who has learned to read, has thereby in his possession a key, which, by application, will unlock all other sources of knowledge; that while circumstances may influence a man's destiny, yet the continuous exercise of his will in a great measure controls it. Mr. Shaw has been identified with Cass and Morgan Counties and acquainted with their people and affairs, nearly half a century, and has been one of the most influential citizens of Cass County for thirty years. In 1876, by suggestion of the President of the United States, and by a resolution of Congress, the people of every county and city in the Union were requested to appoint a suitable person to deliver, on the Fourth of July of that year, an oration, containing a brief account of such county or city, so that its local history should be perpetuated. Mr. Shaw was appointed to deliver the oration for Cass County, which he did, giving a complete history of it, occupying two and a-half hours in its delivery. And now, as applicable to the closing of this sketch, we deem it best to give his peroration on that occasion: "I have now told you, in a comparatively short time, what I can condense of a half century's history of this county, nearly all of which period has passed under my own personal observation. How

strange that a man should see the birth and infancy, and live on through the youth, to the maturity of a great State! How passing strange that the pioneer of the prairie and the forest should witness all the mysteries of the building—the sub-structure—and the super-structure: should with his own hands, help, not only to lay the foundation rocks deep in the soil, but also to bear up the pillars of strength, and assist in rearing upon them the dome and pinnacle of an Empire State! But so it is. In other countries, generations after generations pass away, and witness no perceptible change in their communities; but here men have passed their lives in log cabins, who now rest from their labors in rosewood caskets, enshrined in marble. And what may we learn by to-day's lesson? It is this, if no other: that whatever condition in life circumstances may place us, to act well our part, and then we can not fail to become important factors in the making up of the State in which we live. Nations are but a conglomerate of smaller communities, and communities of individuals; and the State looks to every man to do his duty. And now, finally, as this is a county festival, the people of which are assembled to celebrate this, the Centennial Anniversary of our country's independence, let us ask ourselves this question: Has Cass County, during the near half century of its history, done its duty to the State and Nation, its duty to God, and to the great world of humanity outside of it—its duty to itself and to the future generations that are to succeed us? And in response, I believe we can lay our hands upon our hearts, and our consciences will tell us that this county, as a community, has done its duty, and results show it. There is probably as much wealth, intelligence, and happiness in it, present and prospective, as in any rural district of its size and population in this great valley. The patriotism of its people and the

integrity of its magistracy stands unimpeached. No duty to the Nation or to humanity has been left unperformed. And the generation now passing away can say to the one just stepping upon the platform: Go and do likewise, and your reward shall be equal, and we trust even an hundred-fold more abundant.

LEWIS F. SANDERS, real estate and insurance, Beardstown; was born in Loudoun County, Va., July 23, 1809; son of Britton and Mary (Gill) Sanders, natives of Virginia, and parents of ten children—nine sons and one daughter, Lewis F. being the seventh son. Britton Sanders was a farmer by occupation. Lewis F., engaged from 1832 to 1835 as a dry goods clerk in Washington, D. C., and in July of the latter year, came to Jacksonville, Ill., and soon after engaged with Dr. Henry H. Hall, as a clerk in his store, near where Virginia now stands, in August, 1835. In 1837, he opened a general store and carried on business on his own account, till 1839; in 1838 he was appointed postmaster of Virginia. In 1839, he moved to Stevenson, now Rock Island, Illinois, and engaged in merchandising there till 1841; then moved to St. Louis, Mo., where he remained till the spring of 1843, when he came to Beardstown. He was appointed Deputy Circuit Clerk; also acted as Deputy County Clerk; was afterward elected County Clerk, which office he held eight years; has been twice re-elected Justice of the Peace, and has held the office of Police Magistrate many years. In 1859, he engaged in the insurance business, and in addition kept a general store for a few years. In 1863, he was appointed Assistant U. S. Revenue Assessor for the 9th District of Illinois, which position he held till 1865; and has since been engaged in the insurance business. In 1839, he married Ellen Clendenen, of Morgan County, Ill., daughter of John Clendenen, of Harford County, Md.; they have had five children, two

of whom are deceased. Mr. Sanders was formerly a Whig, now a Republican.

CHARLES M. SPRING, druggist, Beardstown; is a native of Pike County, Ill., born March 29, 1851, and at fourteen years of age, entered a drug store at Naples, Scott Co., Ill., remaining there five years. He then engaged with Anderson & Watt, wholesale druggists, of St. Louis, Mo., with whom he remained three years, engaged as traveling salesman a portion of the time. In 1872, he came to Beardstown and opened a drug, book and jewelry store, on Park Row, where he has since carried on business, meeting with good success. In 1880, in addition to his other business, he established a wholesale tobacco, cigar, confectionery and grocery house, and the following year a retail grocery. In 1882, he bought a half interest in the Park House, the management being under the firm name of Spring Bros. In 1876, he married Maria, daughter of E. B. Seward, of Beardstown.

SAMUEL SHAW, retired; Beardstown; was born in Cincinnati, O., March 12, 1815, and was raised in the village of Newtown, O., where he afterward worked in a distillery until 1838, when he came to Exeter, Scott Co., Ill., where he worked in a distillery two years. He then moved to Springfield, Ill., where he remained five years as manager of John A. Kidey and S. M. Tinsley's business, and in 1842, in company with S. M. Tinsley, built a 500 bushel still-house in Beardstown, where they ran a distillery about four years, under the firm name of Tinsley & Co. Mr. Shaw then sold out his interest in the distillery to his partner, and bought a tract of 666 acres of land, on the Sangamon Bottoms, which he improved and farmed for twelve years, and on which he raised as high as 8,000 bushels of potatoes in one year. He sold his lands, returned to Beardstown in 1863, and is living retired from active business life. He married Aug. 3, 1839, Mary A.

Fleming, of Exeter, Ill., who has borne him nine children, four of whom are living: John, William, Harry and Ella. Mr. Shaw was a director of the Cass County Bank for seven years, being one of the incorporators of the old Insurance Company; was U. S. Revenue Inspector for the Ninth District; he is a Democrat; himself and family are members of the M. E. Church. During his stay in Springfield, Ill., Mr. Shaw's firm obtained control of the first railroad in the State, running from Springfield to Meredosia.

ABEL M. SMITH, fisherman, Beardstown; was born near Chillicothe, Ohio, in March, 1823, and in October, that year, his father, Thomas Smith, moved with his family to Illinois, and settled at Naples, in Scott Co., then a part of Morgan County. Thomas Smith, who was a farmer, died when our subject was about eleven years old. Abel M. remained on the farm till he attained his majority, and in 1844 went to New Orleans, La., where he worked at the plasterer's trade three years. In 1847, he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and in June, that year, married Mary M. Redding, of that city, and worked at his trade there till 1850; then pursued his trade in Naples, Ill., till 1862, when he abandoned plastering, having become crippled by a fall which he had received in New Orleans, La. He then engaged in fishing, in the Illinois River, at Sharp's Landing and vicinity, for nine years. In 1873 he came to Beardstown, where he has since resided. At Naples, Ill., that year, he built his family boat, also a fishing boat, the former being sixty-five feet long and sixteen feet wide, the latter, forty-two feet long and sixteen feet wide. For the past three years he has been fishing in company with George Swan; they employ four men, and handle over 100,000 pounds of fish annually; their largest catch was taken in Muscooten Bay, in August, 1878; they dispose of their fish in the local markets, and also ship



to St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Smith has four children—three daughters and one son.

FRANK H. SPRING, Park House, Beardstown; was born in Pike County, Ill., in 1856; son of Joseph M. and Hannah E. (Fisk) Spring. He began clerking in a drug store in Naples, Ill., in 1869; in 1870, he came to Beardstown with his parents, and in 1872 engaged as clerk in C. M. Spring's store, where he remained five years. He then kept a drug store for two years, then sold out, and became clerk for his father, in the Park House, and in February, 1882, bought a half interest in that house, which is now conducted under the management of Spring Bros. Joseph M. Spring, subject's father, was born in Cuyahoga County, O., March 4, 1821; he came to Pittsfield, Pike Co., Ill., in 1836, where, after the death of his father, he took charge of the family, and worked the farm until 1860. He then ran a stage from Pittsfield to Naples, about four years; he engaged in the livery business about three years in Naples, Ill., and ran the old Naples House and the Strother House until 1870; he was also in the hotel business in Warrensburg, Mo., a short time. He came to Beardstown in August, 1870, leased the Park House, which he afterward bought in 1872, and conducted it for ten years, and after several changes in the management, sold it in February, 1882, to Charles M. and Frank H. Spring. It is a first class hotel, with forty-five sleeping rooms, five sample rooms, three of which are on the first floor, and all modern conveniences. Joseph M. Spring married, March 2, 1849, Hannah E. Fisk, of Maysville, Pike Co., Ill.; they have had six children: Sylvester Omar, Charles Merrick, Frank Howard, Lucy E., wife of H. G. Unland, of Beardstown, Elmer Ellsworth, and a daughter, deceased. Joseph M. Spring's father, Sylvester O. Spring, located in Ohio, in 1819, and married Frances Merrick, of Pittsfield, Mass.; he died in 1839; she, about

the year 1865; they had two sons and four daughters.

THEODORE SCHAAR, manufacturer of accordeons, Beardstown; is a native of Prussia; born Dec. 8, 1845. His father was a manufacturer of accordeons, and at the age of sixteen, Theodore began learning the trade with him, and worked with him till he was twenty-two years old. In 1867, he emigrated to the United States, and conducted a shop in St. Louis, Mo., two years. In 1869, he returned to Europe, and was married in his native town, to Johanna Kuehn, in January, 1870; and the Franco-Prussian War then breaking out, he was obliged to remain in Prussia till 1871. He then returned to the United States and came to Beardstown, in July, that year, and has since been engaged there in the manufacture of accordeons, and the repairing of all kinds of musical instruments, employing at one time five hands, and at present, two, the mouldings being manufactured in St. Louis, Mo. His instruments find ready sale, both wholesale and retail; he manufactures on an average, forty-five dozen instruments annually.

WERNER STEUERNAGEL, merchant; Beardstown; was born in Altenburg, Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, Dec. 10, 1837; and in 1854, he came to the United States with his parents, who settled at Wheeling, W. Va. In 1855, he engaged as cabin boy on an Ohio River steamboat, and followed that occupation over two years; he then conducted a restaurant in Jacksonville, Ill., for five years, and in 1862 came to Beardstown, and engaged in business. In 1864, he opened a grocery store, which was burned in September, that year, but late in the same year he again started in business; in 1868, he formed a partnership with J. L. Black, with whom he continued in business six years, then bought out Mr. Black's interest, and has since carried on the business alone. He has occupied the

same site on State street since 1868; the building is brick, two stories high, the lower story containing a general stock of groceries, glass, queensware, wooden and willow-ware. In Jacksonville, Ill., in 1859, he married Margaret Kelly, of New York.

ROBERT SCHMOLDT, proprietor of saw-mill and lumber dealer, Beardstown; was born in the village of Ritsch, Hanover, Germany, Aug. 2, 1830, the eighth son of a family of fourteen children, born to Hermann and Margaret (Eilmann) Schmoldt. His father was a large land-owner and farmer in Hanover. Mr. Schmoldt received a fair education, and assisted in the farm work, his father being in feeble health. At nineteen years of age he shipped at Hamburg, Germany, as a seaman, and sailed for two years between Europe and America, making several trips. In 1852, he was married by the American Consul, at Hamburg, to Johanna Blohm, a native of Hanover, and came to the United States and located in New York. He sailed on a coast schooner during the summer, and afterward worked in a sugar refinery. In July, 1853, he came to Beardstown, where he worked at various employments for one or two years, then bought eighty acres of wild land in Monroe Precinct, this county, which he farmed for seven years, with good success, and in 1860 paid a three months' visit, with his family, to his native land. From 1863 to 1869, he engaged in merchandising in Beardstown; then sold out his store and engaged in the milling business, buying his present saw-mill on Muscooten Bay, of W. Weaver, and has since run the mill, buying his logs, which are rafted down the river. The mill cuts, on an average, four thousand feet daily, and gives employment to seven men. He established lumber yards on Third street, in 1881. He still owns considerable land in this county. He has five sons living.

FIELD SAMPLE, Virginia House, Beards-

town; was born near Jacksonville, Morgan Co., Ill., March 26, 1828, where he lived on a farm till 1879. At twenty-one years of age he began farming on his own account, which occupation he followed till 1879, when he rented his land and came to Beardstown. In addition to farming, he had followed brick-making for eleven years. In 1879, he and his brother, F. M. Sample, bought the furniture and fixtures of the Virginia House, which they ran under the firm name of Sample Bros., till May, 1882, when F. M. retired, leaving Field sole proprietor. Mr. Sample was twice elected Coroner of Morgan County, Ill., and also served as Deputy Sheriff of that county. In 1857, in Morgan County, Ill., he married Mary, daughter of David Ribelin, a farmer of that county. They have had six children, four of whom are living. John Sample, the father of our subject, was born in Warren County, Ky., about 1797, and when fourteen years old, came to Bond County, Ill., with his parents, who settled there. He served in the war of 1812. In Bond County, Ill., about the year 1816, he married Sarah Prewitt, a native of Kentucky, and in 1824 he settled on a farm near Jacksonville, where he resided the remainder of his life; he died in 1869, aged seventy-two years. He served as County Commissioner of Morgan County for three years; he was a Democrat. Field is the seventh child of a family of nine sons and four daughters, of which six sons and two daughters are living.

JOHN W. SEAMAN, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born in Jefferson County, Va. (now West Virginia), Sept. 21, 1820; son of Joseph J. and Nancy A. (Deaver) Seaman. Joseph J. Seaman was born Jan. 19, 1793; followed the occupation of a carpenter and boat builder, and died March 19, 1850; his wife is also deceased; they had two children: Isaac and John W. Mr. Seaman received but a limited education, attending school a short

time at Beardstown and Rushville. He first worked as a carpenter in Springfield, Ill., for some time; afterward engaged in the livery business in Beardstown for nine years, and has since followed farming in this county. In Beardstown, Nov. 9, 1848, he married Mary E. Thompson; born Jan. 14, 1828, daughter of George B. and Hannah Thompson. By this union they have been blessed with the following children: Anna, Harriet (deceased), John W., Hannah, Cora B., Frank (deceased), Charles (deceased), George W., Frederick and Bertha. Mr. Seaman is a member of Ark Lodge, No. 23, A. F. and A. M., in Beardstown; he was a Constable for some time; was Road Supervisor, School Director and School Trustee from 1874 to 1879; he is a Democrat.

Z. T. SMITH, surgeon dentist, Beardstown; was born in Hart County, Ky., May 16, 1849, and being left an orphan when very young, was taken by his sister to her home in Clay County, Mo., where he lived till he was sixteen years of age, and received a good education in the William Jewell College. He then went to Virden, Macoupin Co., Ill., where he studied dentistry, with Dr. G. W. Dillon, about three years. In 1869, he came to Beardstown, where he has since practiced dentistry, with the exception of the years 1871-2. For the past ten years he has been located on State street.

RICHARD TINK, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; is a native of Cornwall, England; born Sept. 23, 1834; son of Samuel and Catharine (Mutton) Tink, also natives of Cornwall, England, and both still living. Samuel Tink, a farmer, was born March 4, 1797; his wife was born in 1807; they are the parents of ten children. Richard received his education in the schools of his native country, and began life as a farmer, and has remained in that occupation ever since on the place where he now resides. In Beardstown, this county, Nov. 14, 1861, he married Mary Mutton, a na-

tive of Cornwall, England, daughter of William and Elizabeth Mutton; three children have been born from this union: Edmund S., Richard G., and Cora E. Mr. Tink is connected with the M. E. Church; he is a member of Ark Lodge, No. 23, A. F. & A. M., and also of the I. O. F., in Beardstown; is a Republican; has been School Director during the years 1877-78-79, and has been Supervisor of Roads some time.

DAVID P. TREADWAY, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born in this county, July 26, 1845; son of Lawson H. and Catharine J. (Pittner) Treadway. Lawson H. Treadway was a native of Maryland; born March 21, 1816; he followed the occupation of a farmer, and died in November, 1868; his wife, born in Tennessee, Dec. 23, 1814, is still living; they had five children. David P. received his education mainly in this precinct; also attended the schools at Concord and Beardstown, and has always been a farmer. During the late war he served one year and eight months in the Fourteenth Ill. Infantry, under General Howard, his company being commanded by Capt. Gillespie. He was married in Beardstown, Nov. 20, 1867, to Mary H. Chalfant, born in Beardstown, Aug. 14, 1849, who has borne him five children: Lucia V., Anna L., Harry C., Walter A. and Edgar V. Mrs. Treadway is a daughter of Thomas J. and Ann E. Chalfant, natives of Wheeling, W. Va.; he was born March 5, 1823, and she was born Nov. 23, 1829. Mr. Treadway is a Republican; is now School Trustee, and has been School Director several years; his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

LEWIS TREADWAY, Central Hotel; Beardstown; was born near Monroe, in this county, March 3, 1837, and came to Beardstown with his parents in 1843. His father, John Treadway, was a native of Maryland, and a cooper by trade, with whom the son learned

that trade, and at which he (our subject) worked until 1864, running a shop of his own for four years in Beardstown, after which he engaged in merchandising for thirteen years, traveling for a house in Peoria two years. In 1874 he bought the old Palmer House, which he ran five years, when it was destroyed by fire. He built the present Central Hotel on its site, which contains twenty-one large rooms for guests, a sample room and all modern conveniences. The father and three uncles of our subject were in the war of 1812. In December, 1822, the father married Miss Rebecca McKane, of Hamilton, Ohio, who bore her husband eleven children. The old couple are still living, he, in his eighty-seventh, and she, in her eighty-second year.

SETH J. THOMPSON, Beardstown Ferry, Beardstown; is a native of this county; born in Monroe Precinct, June 8, 1840. George B. Thompson, subject's father, was born in Orange County, N. Y., Sept. 23, 1800, and married in New York, Hannah Beers, who bore him four sons and two daughters. He came to Monroe Precinct in 1839, moved from his farm there in 1842, and after various changes of location and occupation, he and his son went, in 1850, via the overland route, to California and Oregon, remaining twenty-one months, and returned via Nicaragua and New Orleans, staying ten days in Havana, Cuba, during the Walker Expedition. He run the Beardstown ferry from 1852 to 1858, then engaged in the grocery business till 1862, our subject assisting in the forwarding and commission business, and afterward engaged in glass and queensware business several years, and also in farming three years; he died June 2, 1872. Our subject enlisted Oct. 18, 1861, in Co. G, 32d Ill. Volunteer Infantry, and served three years in the Army of the Tennessee; was first duty Sergeant, and was mustered out near Rome, Ga., Oct. 24, 1864. He participated in the battle of Shiloh, the sieges

of Corinth and Vicksburg, and the Meridian Raid. After his return from the war, he worked awhile on the Beardstown Ferry, afterward, in company with Luther A. Jones, ran it for five and one-half years, then, in company with John W. Seaman, for two years, and, from 1873 to July, 1881, ran it in company with John Rohn, he having bought Seaman's interest; since that time it has been controlled by Thompson & Co. Mr. Thompson was licensed as pilot and captain on the river from St. Louis to La Salle in 1872, and has run, almost every season since, on various steamboats. He married, Dec. 7, 1860, Addie Rahn, of Beardstown.

EDWARD N. TREADWAY, farmer; P. O., Beardstown; is a native of Ohio; born Feb. 23, 1825, son of Edward and Elizabeth (Anderson) Treadway, natives of Maryland, and parents of seven children. Subject's father, who was a farmer by occupation, was born in 1783, and died in 1858. Edward N. received his education in Monroe Precinct, this county, and has since followed farming here. He married, Dec. 2, 1851, Louisa J. Sallee, who died, Nov. 8, 1867, leaving three children: Elizabeth J., Norris A., and Edward L. On March 27, 1860, he married his present wife, Sarah F. Phelps, born in September, 1841, daughter of William and Martha A. Phelps, and from this marriage ten children have been born: Louisa E., Caroline B., Martha A., William Henry, Sarah F., Edward N., Hans A., Margaret, Annie G., and an infant, unnamed. Mr. Treadway is a Democrat, a member of Lodge No. 16, I. O. O. F., in Beardstown, and is connected with the M. E. Church.

JOHN W. THOMPSON, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; was born in Lancashire, England, in 1827; only child of Thomas and Mary Thompson, natives of England; he, a carpenter by trade, deceased; she, died in this county in 1842. Mr. Thompson received his edu-

cation in England, where he afterward worked in a cotton factory. In 1842 he came to this country, where he has since followed farming. He is one of the most prominent farmers of this county, where he owns 612 acres of land; the somewhat famous "Clear Lake," of this county, is mostly owned by him. He is a member of the M. E. Church; was School Trustee in 1863-4; he is a Democrat.

HENRY G. UNLAND, merchant, Beardstown; was born in Hanover, Germany, April 14, 1844, and in the spring of the following year was brought to this country by his parents, who settled on a farm in Arenzville Precinct, this county, his father entering a large tract of wild prairie land there. Mr. Unland lived on the farm till he attained his majority, then attended the Central Wesleyan University, at Warrenton, Mo., for two years, afterward was clerk in the general store of Leonard Bros., Beardstown, for two years, then clerk for Kuhl Bros. about two years. In 1872, he became a partner in the firm of J. H. Pieper & Co., remaining in that firm until 1874, when he engaged in business on his own account, on the corner of Main and State streets. After conducting the store for a time himself, the management became H. G. Unland & Bros., and since 1877 C. H. Unland has managed the business, which has, since February, 1880, been carried on in the Seeger Block, the corner room being devoted to groceries and drugs, our subject having charge of the grocery department. In Beardstown, in November, 1872, Mr. Unland married Lucy E., daughter of Joseph M. Spring, of Beardstown. Casper H. Unland, our subject's father, was born in the city of Osnabruck, in Hanover, Germany, Sept. 29, 1808, and followed farming in his native country. In January, 1845, he landed in New Orleans, La., having left Europe Oct. 4, 1844. He settled on 100 acres of land near Bluff Springs, this county, and engaged in

farming there five years. He then sold that farm and bought two hundred acres of land in Arenzville Precinct, this county, which he still owns, and where he lived until 1876, with the exception of three years, during which he resided in Beardstown, in order to give his children an education, then moving back to his farm, a school house having been built in the vicinity, of which he was Director for some years. He owns the general store in Beardstown managed by his three sons; he also has three hundred and sixty acres of land in Arenzville Precinct. In October, 1829, he married Mary Carls, also a native of Osnabruck, Hanover. Of their eleven children, eight were born in Europe, and three in this country. Nine children are living, eight sons and one daughter.

DR. WILLIAM G. UNLAND, Beardstown; is a native of this county: born near Bluff Springs, in July, 1846, and was raised on a farm. He attended the Beardstown schools four years, Quincy College one year, and four years at the Wesleyan College at Warrenton, Mo. In 1869 he began the study of medicine with Drs. Smith and Cook, of Quincy, Ill., and in 1870 entered the St. Louis Homeopathic College of Physicians and Surgeons, where he took a course of lectures, and completed his studies in the Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, from which he graduated in the spring of 1871. He then practiced for a year in Pittsfield, Ill., and in the spring of 1872 went to Europe, and continued his medical studies in the universities of Berlin and Vienna for over a year, and on his return, in 1873, located at Quincy, Ill. He remained there but a short time, then moved to Lincoln, Neb., where he remained two years; afterward spent about two years in Pekin, Ill., and in March, 1880, came to Beardstown where he has since been engaged in the drug business in connection with the practice of his profession.

HERMAN H. UNLAND, merchant, Beardstown; was born in what is now Monroe Precinct, this county, May 12, 1848. At eighteen years of age he entered the Central Wesleyan University, of Warrenton, Mo., where he spent three years, 1867-70, then entered the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill., from which he graduated in June, 1875. In the fall of that year he became principal of the High School at Pekin, Ill., which position he held for a year; and in the fall of 1876, became a member of the firm of H. G. Unland & Bros., which carried on business for a year under that name. He then engaged with C. H. Unland, and since 1880 has had charge of the dry goods department of his store. In 1876, he married Emma Smith, of Will County, Ill.; they have two children.

JOHN H. UNLAND, farmer; P.O., Beardstown; is a native of Germany; born July 30, 1833; son of Casper H. and Mary (Carls) Unland, natives of Germany; he, still living, a farmer by occupation, born in 1808; she, born in 1811; parents of thirteen children. John H. attended school in Weimar, Germany, three years, and also about one year here, and began farming in this county, and has ever since followed that occupation. He married, in this county, Nov. 19, 1857, Elizabeth Christianer, born in Germany, in 1830, daughter of Jost H. and Angel Christianer; they have had nine children: George H., Lucinda, Mary, Henrietta, Frank J., Henry W., William F., Louis (deceased), and an infant, (deceased). Mr. Unland is a Republican, and a member of the M. E. Church.

JOSEPH WEAVER, contractor and bricklayer, Beardstown; was born in Putnam County, Ind., Oct. 22, 1832. George W. Weaver, subject's father, was born in Fluvanna County, Va., and moved to Kentucky when a boy; in 1833 he came with his family to this county, then Morgan County, settling on a farm in Jersey Prairie, where he lived for

many years; he also lived several years in Virginia, this county, where he was engaged in brickmaking; he built the Virginia Seminary. He came to Beardstown about the year 1850, where he engaged in the milling and lumber business about fifteen years. He served one term as County Judge of this county, some time between 1840 and 1850, and was Mayor of Beardstown for three terms. He retired from business life several years before his death, which occurred March 8, 1881, he being then in his seventy-seventh year. His wife, Martha Carver, bore him twelve children, of whom three sons and four daughters are living, Joseph being the eldest living son. Our subject learned the trades of bricklaying and brickmaking with his father, and took his first contract in Beardstown, in 1856, and has since been contractor and foreman on brick work there, with the exception of four years, which he spent in Hancock County, Ill. In Beardstown, in April, 1862, he married Mary Collins, daughter of Edward and Thalia (Beard) Collins. Edward Collins was born in Enfield, Ct., in 1797, and in 1836 moved with his family to a farm in Beardstown Precinct, this county, where he farmed until about twelve years before his death, spending his last years in Beardstown; he died in 1863; his wife died in 1860. He came to Beardstown from Ohio in 1832.

SAMUEL WORTMAN, blacksmith, Bluff Springs; was born in Rush County, Ind., May 16, 1829. His parents, Smith W. and Mary (Wagoner) Wortman, both died in 1859; his father was a native of North Carolina; his mother of Bourbon County, Ky.; they had six children, five boys and one girl. Samuel received but a limited education, attending school in Rush and Shelby Counties, Ind. He worked at the blacksmith's trade in Sangamon County, Ill., about a year, then came to this county, where he has since remained, and where he was married, Oct. 17, 1852, to Es-

ther Taylor, a native of this county, born April 16, 1832, daughter of John and Mary Taylor; he, still living, she, deceased. By this union seven children have been born: Eliza J., Amos (deceased), Levy (deceased), Francis M., Ann E. (deceased), Marvln T. and Alice L. Mr. Wortman is a Democrat; his wife is a member of the M. E. Church.

HENRY WITTE, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; is a native of Prussia; born Aug. 9, 1824; son of Frederick W. and Mena C. (Esamann) Witte; he, a farmer by occupation, died in Beardstown, in 1870, where his wife also died, in 1868; they were the parents of nine children. Henry received a good education, having attended the schools of Germany seven years; he engaged in railroading, and, also served two years as a soldier in Prussia, in the 15th Regiment of Volunteers, under Capt. August Menkoff. He has since followed farming. In Beardstown, this county, April 3, 1856, he married Mena Vette, born in Prussia, April 2, 1834, daughter of Frederick and Crystal Vette, and from this union eight children have been born: Henry W., Caroline (deceased), Bertha, Anna, Maria, Louise, Edward (deceased) and Mena. Mr. Witte is a member of the Lutheran Church; he is a Republican.

REV. W. WEIGAND, Beardstown; was born in Zanesville, O., in April, 1852; son of John and Elizabeth Weigand. In 1854 his parents moved to Mt. Sterling, Brown Co., Ill., where our subject lived till he was fifteen years of age, when he entered upon his preparatory course at St. Francis' Seminary, Milwaukee, Wis., and completed the course at St. Joseph's Ecclesiastical College, at Teutopolis, Ill., in 1873. In 1875, he entered Mt. St. Mary's Theological Seminary, Cincinnati, O., from which he graduated in the spring of 1878, receiving the major and minor orders, and that of Deacon, from Archbishop Purcell, of Cincinnati, O. He was ordained to the priest-

hood, Nov. 10, 1878, by Bishop Baltus, of Alton, Ill., and in December of the same year was established Rector of St. Alexius Church, of Beardstown, where he has since officiated; has established a parish school, and freed the church from debt.

DAVID WAGNER, farmer, P. O., Beardstown; was born in Monroe County, O., July 26, 1823, and is the only surviving child of a family of seven children, born to John and Jemima (Carr) Wagner. John Wagner, who was a blacksmith, and also a sickle, scythe and axe maker, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1794; his wife was a native of Monroe County, O. Mr. Wagner attended school but little, but being an extensive reader, stored his mind with useful information. He early engaged in farming, which occupation he still follows. He has been twice married. His first wife, Sarah E. Blake, whom he married March 8, 1849, bore him four children: John, Sarah J., William, and Rufus; the latter deceased. His present wife, whose maiden name was Eliza J. Brown, is a native of Ohio, and daughter of John and Polly Brown; from this second marriage six children have been born: Mary Ann (deceased), Adeline, Fannie, Franklin, Charles, and Ida. Mr. Wagner was formerly a Whig, and is now a Republican; he was for several years Road Supervisor, and also School Director.

DR. DAVID WHITNEY, retired dentist, Beardstown; was born in Franklin County, Mass., Jan. 29, 1803, and was educated in Conway, his native town. At twenty-two years of age, he began the study of medicine, and graduated from the Pittsfield College, in 1831. In 1832, he removed to western New York, practiced his profession six years, and then moved to Indiana, where, his health failing, he relinquished medicine partly, and practiced dentistry till 1856, when he removed to Beardstown, where he has since remained, having practiced dentistry for twenty

years; during the last six years, however, he has retired from active practice. In 1826, he married Miss Elizabeth S. Granger, of North Hadley, Mass., and seven children were born to them, three of whom are dead. Those living are: Cornelia, Mrs. Wallsworth, Ellen, Benjamin R., civil engineer, David V., physician. For many years Mrs. Whitney has made a study of geology and archæology, and has one of the finest collections of fossils and prehistoric implements in the State. The Doctor is a Baptist, and Mrs. Whitney is a Congregationalist.

HENRY B. WILSON, grain merchant, Beardstown; was born in Bertie County, N. C., Sept. 2, 1829, and is the eldest of a family of eleven children, born to James D. and Sallie (Mizell) Wilson. James D. Wilson was born in North Carolina, Jan. 9, 1806; he was a cooper by trade; and in 1851 settled on a farm in Arenzville Precinct, this county, where he died in 1857; he was married in October, 1828, to Sallie Mizell, who died in February, 1881, age 73 years; of their eleven children all are living, save one son. Mr. Wilson learned the cooper's trade with his father, and worked at it in his native State; after his father's death he worked the farm until 1860; he then came to Beardstown, and after clerking a short time there for Mr. Seeger, bought out his stock, which he sold in 1863, and then was employed by different firms as salesman, until 1870. In that year he entered into partnership with John R. Dutch, in company with whom he carried on a general merchandising and grain business, until the fall of 1874, when their store, stock and warehouse were burned, entailing a loss of \$25,000. Mr. Wilson then engaged in the grain business, and in 1878, became a member of the firm of Garm, Wilson & Co., who bought the steamboat "Maggie P," and barges, carrying on an extensive grain business until the spring of 1882 when they sold

the steamboat. They have warehouses at Beardstown, Bluff Springs, West Point and Bath, and have leased others on the Illinois River. In 1861, Mr. Wilson married Angeline, daughter of G. H. Seeger, of Beardstown; they have had seven children, of whom two sons and two daughters are living.

THEODORE WILKINS, deceased; was born in the city of Berlin, Germany, Dec. 13, 1820; his father was a major in the Prussian army. Mr. Wilkins completed a college course, and at the age of seventeen entered the army as a private soldier; he passed his examination at the end of three months, and, after attending an artillery and engineer's school at Berlin, received a lieutenant's commission, and served until 1847, when he resigned. He then came to the United States, and settled near Washington, Franklin Co., Mo., where he engaged in farming, and where, in 1849, he married Matilda Manlinckrodt, who died in 1853, leaving one son, Paul, a teacher in St. Louis, Mo.; she was a daughter of Julius Manlinckrodt. In 1855, he married Bertha Setzer; her father emigrated from Hamburg, Germany, and settled at Hermann, Mo., in 1837, she being then a child of nine years. In 1858, Mr. Wilkins moved to St. Louis, Mo., having previously sold his farm, and been engaged in the drug business in Washington, Mo. He was a Collector in St. Louis until the breaking out of the late war, when, in April, 1861, he was elected Captain of a Home Guard Company, afterward serving in the Second Missouri Artillery three years as major, being in active service at the capture of Camp Jackson, at Carthage, and other points. After the war he was Assessor in St. Louis, Mo., until 1868, when he came to Beardstown. Here he engaged as Secretary of the Illinois Insurance Company, and was afterward Cashier of the Cass County Bank until 1878, when he resigned that position, and became editor of the *Beardstown Wochen-*



*blatt*, a German paper, which he edited until the time of his death, which occurred May 11, 1881. By his last marriage seven children were born, four of whom are living, two sons and two daughters.

GEORGE WAGNER, farmer, P. O., Bluff Springs; is a native of Germany; born Dec. 14, 1825; son of Theodore and Elizabeth (Andreas) Wagner; he, a piano maker by trade; she, died in 1827. Mr. Wagner attended school for eight years in his native country, where he began life as a farmer; he served two years in the 3d Regiment of Prussia—a Hessian regiment—under Captain Otto. He came to this county in 1850, where he has since been engaged in farming. In Beardstown, in 1851, he married Mary Derr, a native of Germany, born Nov. 11, 1825, who bore him five children: John, Theodore, George, Elizabeth, and Mary. In 1864, he married Catharine Deitrick, also a native of Germany, born in 1835, and by this marriage six children have been born: Emil, Harry L., Rosa, Edward, Lydia, and Anna Eliza. His step-daughter, Mary Webel, eighteen years of age, resides with him. He is a Republican.

JOHN H. WEDEKING, cigar manufacturer, Beardstown; is a native of Beardstown; born May 11, 1844; son of Frederick Wedeking, a native of Germany, who came to Beardstown in 1833, and finally settled on a farm in Arenzville Precinct, this county, in 1844, where he still resides, aged seventy-three years. John H. received an ordinary education, and remained on the farm till 1862, when he enlisted in Co. A, 114th Ills. Volunteer Infantry, and during his term of service participated in the battles of Jackson, Miss., and Vicksburg, and again at Jackson, Miss. At the latter place, July 16, 1863, he received a gunshot wound, which necessitated the amputation of his leg at the thigh; he lay in Memphis Hospital till May, 1864, and was mustered out that year at Jefferson Barracks. On his

return to Beardstown, he began learning the trade of cigar making, at which he served two years. In 1866, he opened a cigar factory at Lincoln, Logan County, Ill., where he carried on business one and a half years, then returned to Beardstown, and for six years worked for John Limberger. In 1880, he opened his present cigar factory, No. 36 Fourth District of Illinois, and has since carried on business here; he employs three men, and manufactures about 200,000 cigars annually, making four brands. In 1866 he married Helena Tembick, of Beardstown.

JOHN WEBB, retired from business; Beardstown; was born near Manchester, England, Dec. 9, 1813, and came to the United States with his parents in 1818, who settled in Baltimore, Md. He learned the trade of a machinist, and afterward worked in the shops of the B. & O. R. R. Co. He worked upon marine engines, and for the Savage Manufacturing Company, till 1838, in which year he went to Springfield, Ill., and from there to Petersburg. In 1844, he came to Cass County, and started a shop about three miles from Virginia, for the manufacture of Page's portable circular saws, but his business increased to such an extent that he was compelled to seek better facilities, and he moved to Beardstown, where he erected a foundry and machine shop, running the same till 1856, when his works were burned out, with a loss of \$17,000; no insurance. He rebuilt, however, and continued the business until 1866, when he sold to Ebaugh & Quinlan. He afterward went into the manufacture of wagons, which he continued till 1875, when he retired, leaving the business in the hands of his son and son-in-law. He married in Baltimore, in 1834, Miss Eliza A. Kahaley.

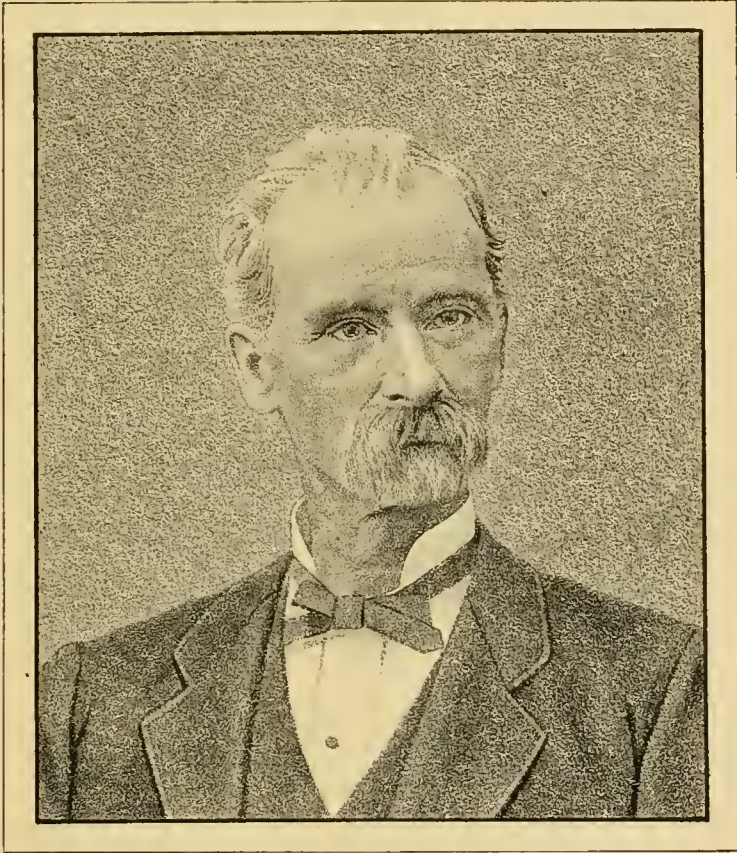
W. B. WILLIAMS, farmer; P. O., Bluff Springs; is a native of North Carolina; born Jan. 6, 1848. His parents, W. A. and Mar-

garet (Thomas) Williams, are both still living, and have had five children; his father, who is also a native of North Carolina, and a farmer by occupation, was born Jan. 8, 1818. Mr. Williams received but a limited education in the schools of his precinct, attending school but a short time, and has always been a farmer. For the past three years he has been the keeper of the poor-farm. In Beardstown, Aug. 8, 1872, he married Mary J. Heaton, a native of England; born May 15, 1850, who bore him two children, John E. and William H. Mrs. Williams died March 1, 1881; she was a daughter of John and Mary Jane Heaton, who now reside in Virginia, this county. His second wife, whom he married July 28, 1881, is Anna Gough.

CHARLES E. WYMAN, attorney at law, Beardstown; was born in Roxbury, Mass., in May, 1852, and at the age of four years came West with his parents, who settled on a farm in Ford County, Ill., where he remained till he was eighteen years of age. He then began the study of law with his brother Gilbert, in Chatsworth, Ill., and in connection with his law studies engaged in teaching school and in other pursuits for three years. He was

admitted to the bar at the session of the Supreme Court held in Ottawa, Ill., in September, 1875, and after practicing a year in Gilman, Ill., came to Beardstown in the fall of 1876, where he has since resided, enjoying a good practice in this and adjoining counties. He is now serving his third term as City Attorney of Beardstown. In 1877, he married Maggie, daughter of John Fidler, of Beardstown.

HENRY WINHOLD, farmer; P. O. Bluff Springs; is a native of this county; born May 7, 1843; son of William and Barbara (Weber) Winhold, natives of Hessen, Germany. William Winhold was born Feb. 1, 1809, and is a farmer by occupation. He came to this country in 1855, landing in Baltimore, Md., August 28, that year, and settled in Pennsylvania, where he remained nearly seven years; and in 1841, came to this county. His wife, who was born in 1805, is also living. They are the parents of seven children: two boys, and five girls. Mr. Winhold received his education in the schools of this county, and began life as a farmer, which occupation he has ever since followed in this county. He is a Republican.



*N. H. Boone*



**CHANDLERVILLE PRECINCT.**

THOMAS AINSWORTH, capitalist ; Chandlerville. Among the most active, upright and highly respected citizens of Cass County, who have achieved success by their own indomitable energies, rather than by any outside aid, is the subject of this sketch. His record is that of hundreds of others of the self made, self reliant men, to be met with in the every-day walks of life, and his career has been marked with the varied experiences common to all of the class referred to. Mr. Ainsworth is a native of Lancashire, England, having been born Jan. 30, 1814, to Thomas and Sarah (Townley) Ainsworth, both natives of England. He was denied the privilege of attaining other than a limited mental culture in youth; but his was an energy that was not easily thwarted by obstacles, and by dint of his own perseverance, he succeeded in gaining a fair business education; nor was he more fortunate in this world's goods. Standing on the threshold of his young manhood, he could easily count the dollars that were his upon the fingers of his hand. His had ever been a cradle rocked by the hand of adversity; but his heart was strong, his courage great, his energy remarkable; and lured by hope, he pressed steadily forward, placing his trust in Him who heareth ever the cry of the raven, and who has promised to reward the faithful worker. His early life was spent at home, and at an early age learned to earn his own livelihood in a cotton factory, where his father was also employed. At the age of twenty-eight years he bade his home and native country farewell. He emigrated to America in 1842, and the same year moved to Illinois, settling in Mason County, where he entered eighty acres of

wild prairie land, and remained on the same for thirty-five years, and during that time saw this country develop from a wilderness to its present highly cultivated condition. In 1876 he erected, from his own designs, a neat and commodious residence in the stirring little town of Chandlerville, and moved to the same in the spring of 1877, where he may now be found, surrounded with those comforts, and enjoying those pleasures that are ever the result of honesty, industry and economy. Mr. Ainsworth is one of the largest stockholders of the Valley National Bank of St. Louis, is largely interested in Colorado mines, and is the owner of over two thousand acres of the best land of Illinois. His marriage occurred in 1837, to Miss Maria Abbott, a native of Lancashire, England, born in November, 1814. The result of this union was ten children, of whom seven are now living: Nancy, the wife of Augustine Witt, a wholesale merchant of Decatur; William Henry, a prominent merchant of Rood House, Ill.; Alice, the wife of William Casey, a retired farmer, of Centralia, Ill.; Thomas T., a farmer of Mason County; Sarah E., wife of George Ransome, a farmer of Mason County; Mary A., wife of Thomas Saye furniture dealer, of Chandlerville, and Joseph, who is farming upon the old homestead farm, in Mason County. Among his children Mr. Ainsworth has divided over \$80,000 worth of property. He and wife are connected with the Congregational Church. He was formerly an old line Whig, but is now a Republican. He has never taken part in political demonstrations, but evidently takes quite as much interest in what he has *not* done, as in that which he actually has accomplished.

FRIEDRICH BRAUER, retired farmer: P. O. Chandlerville. Hanover, formerly a State of the German Confederation, situated in Northwestern Germany, has furnished a larger proportion of solid, substantial, thrifty emigrants to America, perhaps, than any portion of country of equal size on the continent. Of the number referred to belongs the subject of this sketch, who was born in Hanover, May 10, 1822. Here were his parents also born. Notwithstanding the beauties in nature, art, science and literature, that characterize the "German Fatherland," the great Republic that has sprung into existence within the last century in North America, has presented quite enough in attractions to seduce many thousands of Germans to our shores, where, to their honor, be it said, they contributed largely by their industry and thrift, to the material wealth of the country of their adoption. Christ. Brauer, the father of the subject of this memoir, set sail for this country, with his family, in 1842, landing at New Orleans. From this point he embarked by water for Beardstown, Ill., where he remained two months looking for a suitable farm, which he found, and purchased of William Taylor, three miles north of Arenzville. Here Mr. Brauer died in the spring of 1843; his wife surviving his death until 1853. In 1853, previous to the death of his mother, Mr. Brauer sold the homestead farm, and bought two hundred acres of land about one mile north of Arenzville, where he remained for thirteen years, when he sold it, and bought of John Fielding, in Sangamon Bottom, 280 acres of land. In 1880, he rented his farms, bought a handsome residence in Chandlerville, and removed to it the same year, it being his desire to retire from active labor and enjoy the fruits of his past labors. As a business man Mr. Brauer has been very successful. He now owns 1,000 acres of splendid farming land, as good as is to be found in

this part of Illinois. Mr. Brauer was married in Cass County in 1847, to Miss Elizabeth Brunker, a native of Germany. The result of this union was twelve children, of whom five are now living: Mary, widow of John Ackerman; Lewis, a farmer of Christian County, who married Miss Lizzie Blumie, of Menard County; Lizzie, the wife of Ephraim Henry, a farmer of Christian County; Hannah, wife of Charles Grape, a farmer of Christian County; and Minnie, at home with her parents. Mr. Brauer and wife, are members of the German Lutheran Church. In the life of our subject we have demonstrated some of the possibilities of human energy and perseverance in overcoming difficulties. We have seen him launched out in life empty handed, battling with poverty, with a family to support, steadily gaining and increasing his possessions, until to-day he looks out on his fine farms, covered with a rich harvest, ready for the reaper, and furnished with all conveniences of well ordered and improved farms.

DR. NATHANIEL H. BOONE, Chandlerville; was born in Troop Co., Georgia, June 4, 1838, to William and Martha E. (Bradford) Boone; born in South Carolina in 1800; farmer; and died in Mississippi in 1855; his wife, the mother of our subject, was born in South Carolina in 1805, and is now residing in Oxford, Mississippi. She is the mother of ten children; five of whom are living; of whom the Doctor was the third. When but six years old he was removed by his parents to Alabama, and at the age of nine to Oxford, Mississippi. His literary education was received at the Oxford University, after which he entered the Nashville Medical College, in 1854, and graduated March 4, 1860, when he began the practice of his profession at Pine Bluff, Arkansas; and in 1864 removed to Chandlerville, Ill., his present residence, where he has a large and

improving practice, and socially enjoys the highest esteem. In 1842, in Arkansas, he married Miss Julia C. Blackwell, a native of Georgia. She died in 1857, aged twenty-six years, and was the mother of two children, James and Howard N., both dead. In September, 1858, in Menard County, Ill., he married Miss Harriet C. Grogan, a native of Menard County, Ill.; born in November, 1837. She is the mother of two children, both of whom are dead. Politically, Dr. Boone is affiliated with the Democratic party.

**ALBERT BUCK**, merchant: Chandlerville: was born in this county, June 20, 1849; son of Jasper and Sophia Buck; he, born Dec. 17, 1792, and died March 1, 1861; she, born April 26, 1797, and died Dec. 27, 1866. They were the parents of thirteen children, seven of whom are now living: Thomas C., born July 4, 1814, died Dec. 5, 1873; Charlezen, born June 26, 1817, died Aug. 6, 1856; Sarah (Conrad) Reimling, born July 31, 1818, living in Ardenville Precinct; Martha, widow of Michael Barton, born Aug. 29, 1821; Margaret, May 7, 1824, died Oct. 8, 1831; Elizabeth and James, twins, born Nov. 24, 1837; James died in infancy, and Elizabeth married Richard L. Davis; James H., born Jan. 30, 1838, died May 4, 1867; John H., born March 27, 1838; Stephen D., born July 14, 1838; Jasper J., born Oct. 16, 1838; Mary, wife of Mathew Bowyer, born July 20, 1838, died April 2, 1880; and Albert, the subject of this sketch. Jasper, with two brothers, John and Stephen, came from Berne County, N. C., between the years 1825 and 1830, and settling in what is now known as Ardenville Precinct. Jasper was a man highly respected in his day, and filled the position of Justice of the Peace. Albert, being the youngest, remained on the farm with his mother, until the breaking out of the late war, when he, in August, 1861, volunteered in Company K, 101st Illinois

Infantry, serving until the close of the war, at which time, 1865, he began farming on the home place. June 9, 1866, he was married to Miss Sarah Naomi Stanley, by whom he has had two children: Sarah Ellen, born April 3, 1867, and Chas. Oliver, born April 23, 1870. He continued farming until February, 1871, when he met with an accident that dislocated him from farm duty; when he moved to Ardenville in 1874 and opened a grocery store. He was elected Justice of the Peace. In the fall of 1875 he sold out his business in Ardenville, and moved to Chandlerville, where he has since remained in business.

**CHARLES C. BROWN**, druggist and hardware: Chandlerville: was born near Cleveland, O., Dec. 22, 1844, to O. P. and Lydia B. Beebe Brown, born in Buffalo, N. Y., in 1824, and when a child was taken to the Western Reserve, O., by his parents, where, after he grew to manhood, became a prominent lawyer and judge of Fergus County; was a member of the Legislature for several terms, and State Senator, and enlisted in Seventh Ohio Regiment but died soon after the breaking out of the war. Gen. J. A. Gardner was one of his law students, and he nominated the future President to his first political office. His death occurred in 1862. His wife, the mother of our subject, was born in Chardon, O., in 1825, and died in 1868; she was the mother of three children, of whom Chas. C. was the eldest son. In 1861 he went to Cleveland and engaged as clerk in wholesale drug business for about five years, with the exception of eleven months, while he was in the war—150th Ohio Regiment, Cleveland 3 Grays, Company C. In 1866 he commenced in the mercantile business in Warren, Ohio. In 1867 he removed to Chandlerville, Cass County, where he engaged as clerk in different drug stores. In 1868 he started a dry goods, grain and grocery business in Chandlerville. In 1873 he started in the drug business with

Mr. Ira N. Read, where he has since remained, engaged extensively in the drug business, also handling a large stock of hardware. He has been a member of the Town Board nearly all the time since he came to the county, and has filled other town offices. Oct. 12, 1881, he married Miss Anna Saunders, a native of DeWitt County, Iowa; was born in 1854; is a member of A. F. and A. M., and has served as Master; is a Republican, and has been several times Chairman of the Central Committee.

B. E. BOWMAN, dealer in agricultural implements, Chandlerville; was born in Rutherford County, Tenn., April 23, 1844, to James T. and Mary (Brown) Bowman; he born in Tennessee, a farmer, and dying in January, 1854, aged forty-seven years; she, also a native of Tennessee, died in July, 1866, aged fifty-four years. She was the mother of twelve children, and of them B. E. Bowman was the ninth. In 1862 he was conscripted into the Confederate army, and served in the 45th Tenn. Reg., under Bragg. He was captured at Look Out Mountain in December, 1864, taken to Rock Island, and stayed until July, 1865, when he went to Mason County, where he worked as a farm hand, and continued until 1869, when he rented a farm in Cass County, where he has since been engaged. He married April 14, 1869, Sarah J. Hash, a native of Cass County, born June 17, 1849, and died in December, 1872, leaving two children, Ella and Arthur, both at home. Oct. 14, 1874, he married Miss Mary Parrott, a native of Missouri, born in 1846, who was the mother of three children, only one of whom is living, Clark E. Mr. Bowman has served as School Director, and self and wife are members of the Christian Church. He is a Democrat.

REV. JOHN M. BOWERS, Congregational clergyman, Chandlerville; was born in Washington, Washington County, Penn., March 14,

1835, to George and Catharine (Snyder) Bowers; he, born in Germany, in 1806, and emigrated to America in 1833, settling in Pennsylvania, but subsequently in Mansfield, Ohio, in 1836; is a blacksmith by trade, and is still living. She, also born in Germany, in 1812, came to America in 1832, and was married in 1834; is still living. She is the mother of nine children, John M. being the oldest. The nine children are all living, viz.: John M., Margaret, Caroline, Catharine, Lewis, Barbara, Louisa, George, and William. John M. received his education at the Michigan University, at Ann Arbor, and Vermillion Institute, at Hayesville, Ohio, and his theological training at Oberlin Institute. Was ordained to the Congregational Church at Sedalia, Mo., April 16, 1866. His first church was at Sedalia; he was the organizer of the church there. In 1872 he removed to Lexington, Ohio, where he remained until 1874, when he removed to Parkesburg, Iowa, and remained for three and one-half years, and Earlville, Iowa, for three and one-half years. In 1881 he came to Chandlerville and took charge of the Congregational Church of that town, built in 1880. On March 8, 1870, he was married to Helen A. Knapp; born in Indiana, Jan. 15, 1852. She is a daughter of J. H. and Lydia (Currier) Knapp. Mr. and Mrs. Bowers are the parents of six children, viz.: George, Mary, Laura, Emma, Helen, and Clara. Mr. Bowers was in the 84th Ohio Reg., Col. Lawrence, commander.

GEORGE BRIAR, deceased; was born in New Jersey, Aug. 13, 1817, and was a son of James and Mary Briar, who were the parents of nine children. His education was received in the common schools of Pennsylvania, and in 1835 he came to this county; settled in the Sangamon Bottom, and engaged in farming until his death, which occurred Jan. 20, 1882; he had at the time of his death 200 acres of improved land. In this



county Sept. 4, 1844, he married Sidney Ann Capper, a native of Ohio; born Jan. 28, 1824, who died Jan. 31, 1873, leaving six children: James D., born Nov. 26, 1846; Robert E., Feb. 13, 1848; George W., Dec. 13, 1849; Charles M., March 9, 1852; Alice, March 24, 1856; and Susan, Jan. 8, 186 , all of whom are at the homestead farm except James D., who is in Missouri. Mrs. Briar was a daughter of Meredith and Eliza Capper, natives of Ohio. Mr. Briar was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and a supporter of the Republican party.

LINUS C. CHANDLER, lawyer; Chandlerville; was born in Chandlerville, Aug. 9, 1846, to Dr. Charles and Clarissa (Child) Chandler; he was born in Connecticut, July 2, 1806, and died April 7, 1879; emigrated to Chandlerville in the winter of 1831—being the founder of Chandlerville—where he was President of Town Board for many years. He took an active part in the business affairs of Chandlerville; he was a druggist and merchant for many years. He was a graduate from the Dudley Academy in Connecticut, and the Medical College, June, 1827, at Castleton, Vermont. Began the practice of his profession in 1829 in Scituate, Rhode Island, and continued the practice of his profession to the time of his death, with the exception of a few years. Was married in Connecticut in 1827, to Mary C. Rickard; she died in 1840 or 1841. In 1842, in Chandlerville, he married a second time, Clarissa Child, of Connecticut. By the first marriage there were five children: Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Gen. C. E. Lippincott, of Chandlerville, Mrs. Frackelton, of Petersburg, Charles E., of Knoxville, Illinois, and Harrison T., of Cleveland, Ohio. By the second marriage there were three children; Linus C., our subject, being the only one living. Linus C. attended Phillips' Academy, Andover, Mass., and Illinois College, and graduated from Harvard Law Uni-

versity in June, 1871, when he went to Chicago, and entered the office with Higgins, Swett & Quigg, and afterward with Nolton, Smith & Scales, until the fire in Chicago, when he returned to Chandlerville, and opened a law office, where he has since remained. In 1872 was elected States Attorney for Cass County, and served four years. In 1880 was elected to the Legislature, and served two years. Was Justice of Peace, and President of Town Board at Chandlerville. On Sept. 5, 1873, he married Sarah L. Beane, a native of Lisbon, N. H. She is the mother of two children: Carl, born Feb. 16, 1876; William C., Feb. 21, 1879. Mr. C. is an active member of the Masonic order, having been Master of his lodge for eight years. Is a Republican.

SILAS CARR, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; was born in Monroe County, Ill., Nov. 10, 1810; son of Leonard and Mary (Groats) Carr. He, a native of Hardy County, Va.; born June 4, 1771, and died June 4, 1851. His business was that of a blacksmith and a farmer; was an early settler of Illinois. She, a native of Randolph County, Ill., and dying in September 1821, aged 40 years. Our subject after receiving the education afforded by the schools of his native county, assisted his father on the farm until he was twenty-one years old. He came to Cass County, Ill., in April, 1863, and is now the owner of 150 acres of land. He was married Feb. 8, 1838, to Miss Delia Sharp, who has borne him three children, two of whom are now living, viz.: Francis M., and Stephen A. Douglas. Mr. Carr and wife are connected with the Methodist Church. He stands high in the estimation of the people as a citizen and a gentleman. His political views are in accordance with the principles of the Republican party.

A. G. COLSON, dealer in furniture and agricultural implements, Chandlerville;

was born in Menard County, Ill., Jan. 6, 1851, to Isaac and Dilue (Overstreet) Colson; he, born in Maine, April 24, 1802; emigrated to Illinois, and settled in Menard County about 1830. During his life he followed the occupation of a farmer, and was one of the largest and most successful farmers of that county; he accumulated about 10,000 acres of well improved land, which he owned at the time of his death, which occurred March 31, 1854. His wife, the mother of our subject, was born in Virginia, March 15, 1814, and died May 12, 1859. They were the parents of one child, our subject. Mrs. Colson was formerly Mrs. Dilue Anderson, and by him had three children. Mr. Colson was educated at Petersburg and Shurtleff College. In 1872 he engaged in the mercantile business at Oakford, Menard Co., Ill., and continued the same for about five years. In 1877 he sold his business and removed to Chandler-ville, where he engaged in the hotel business for about one year. In 1878 he engaged in the commission grain business for about four years, and in the fall of 1881, gave his attention to the agricultural implement business. On Dec. 15, 1870, he was married to Miss Susan E. Davis, a native of Menard County, Ill., born May 10, 1854; died Dec. 25, 1871. Nov. 21, 1872, he married Miss Rachel Skeggs, a native of Mason County, Ill.; born January 16, 1859. She is the mother of five children, of whom but one is living—Blessie, born May 25, 1876. Mr. Colson is President of the Board of Trustees, and a member of the order A. F. & A. M. He and his wife are members of the Congregational Church. He is a Democrat.

JEREMIAH W. DAVIS, deceased. Reference to the prominent and highly industrious class of the citizens of Cass County would be incomplete without a brief mention of the active career of Jeremiah W. Davis, deceased. He was born in Greene County, Ky., Sept. 5,

1816. He was brought to Illinois by his parents, who settled in Cass County about the year 1829. His early life was spent in receiving a limited common school education, and assisting in tilling the home farm. At the age of twenty years, he left his home and embarked on life's rugged pathway, as a farmer, continuing the occupation to the time of his death, which occurred in 1863. He was married March 10, 1836, to Miss Cassandra E. Gunn, who bore him nine children, of whom four are now living, viz.: Jesse A., born Jan. 28, 1842; John B., Feb. 10, 1852; Jemima M., April 26, 1846; and Jeremiah W., Sept. 15, 1854. Mr. Davis commenced life a poor boy, and by hard work succeeded in gaining a good property. At the time of his death he was the owner of 1,000 acres of good land. Such, very briefly, is the career of one who through life was highly energetic and progressive, and whose many excellent qualities of head and heart enabled him to gather about him an unusually large number of friends.

CHRISTIAN DUCHARDT, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born in Germany, June 21, 1820; fifth child of a family of eleven, born to Carl and Mary (Link) Duchardt, both natives of Germany, where also both died; Carl Duchardt was a butcher by trade. Christian received his education in the common schools of Germany, and at the age of seventeen emigrated to America, landing in New York City in 1838. In that same year he came to this county, where he followed the butchering business about twenty years, and in 1858 bought eighty acres of land, and has since devoted his attention to farming, and is now the owner of 560 acres of improved land, all of which has been acquired by his own labors. He was married in this county in 1852, to Mary A. Nollseh, a native of Germany; born in February, 1820, who has borne him two children: Lizzie, wife of Mr. William Neeham,

and John. Mr. Duchardt and family are members of the Methodist Church; he is a Republican.

JAMES FIELDEN, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; was born in Roachdale, England, Jan. 10, 1829, to James and Betty (Bellfield) Fielden; he, born in England about the year 1800, and died in this county, in 1858; he was a son of John Fielden; she was born in England in 1800, and died in Cass County in 1861. They were the parents of eight children, of whom James, the subject of this sketch, was the youngest. He came to America with his father and grandfather in 1842, and remained with his parents to the age of twenty-five years. He learned the trade of shoe-making, but subsequently began farming. He commenced life, as he says,—“worse than poor,” and by his industry and economy has succeeded in accumulating 286 acres of the best land of Cass County. His farm is under a high state of cultivation, and has all the modern improvements in the way of a fine residence, barns, etc. Mr. Fielden was married in Cass County on the fourth day of February, 1857, to Miss Elizabeth Briar. Mrs. Fielden was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in November, 1828. Mr. and Mrs. Fielden have been blessed with seven children, of whom four are now living: Mary, Emma, Lincoln and Lannes. He is a member of the Baptist Church, and she of the Cumberland Presbyterian. Politically, Mr. Fielden, like his father and grandfather, was a Whig, but now unites with the Republican party.

ROBERT FIELDEN, farmer; P. O., Chandlerville, is a native of Lancashire, England; born Feb. 23, 1819; for parents, see sketch of James Fielden. He received his education in his native country, and in 1842, in company with his parents and his grandfather, emigrated to America, and settled on the Sangamon Bottoms, in this county. When

thirty-one years of age, he began farming on his own account, on a part of his father's farm, and now owns three hundred acres of land, part of which is well improved. He has been twice married; in this county, in January, 1850, he married Matilda Cook, a native of Ireland who died in 1858, aged thirty-seven years, leaving four children: Samuel, in Chandlerville; Elizabeth J., at home; James E., a farmer, in Kansas, and John J., at home. In 1863, he married Sarah L. McKinnell, a native of Lancashire, England, who died in March, 1873, aged thirty-seven years; from this marriage four children were born: Henry, Benjamin, David and Jonathan, twins. McFielden is a Republican; he has been County Commissioner two years; has been Township Treasurer about ten years, and now holds that office; he is a member of the Baptist Church.

JOHN H. GOODELL, farmer and lumber merchant; P. O. Chandlerville; was born in Thompson, Windham County, Conn., April 15, 1832, to Horace and Lucy P. (Rickard) Goodell. He, born in Connecticut in 1802, came to Illinois in the spring of 1837, and settled in Cass County, he is a farmer, and now in the eightieth year of his age; his father was a captain in the Revolutionary War. The mother of our subject was born in Windham County, Conn., in 1808, and died in 1868. She had seven children, of whom John H. was the second. At the age of eighteen he left his home and apprenticed himself at the carpenter and joiner trade, and followed that for about twelve years. In 1862 he enlisted in the army, and served three years in the 114th Illinois Regiment, Company A, under command of Capt. Johnson. He was in the battle of Vicksburg. When Price made his march through Missouri, he, in his regiment, marched from Duval's Bluff through to Missouri, and returned to Nashville. In 1865, after his return home, he resumed his trade, and worked at it for

about two years in Jacksonville. In 1866 he commenced farming in Cass County. In 1876 he started a large lumber business at Chandlerville. Mr. Goodell is the owner of about 230 acres of land, in Cass County. In 1851 he married Miss Helen E. Cotton, a native of Franklin County, New York; born in March, 1832, and died in 1863. In 1865, Dec. 27, he married Miss Harriet A. Sewall, a native of Cass County; born April 14, 1838. She is the mother of seven children, six of whom are living: Lucy, Lydia, William, John, Andrew, Susan; all at home. Mr. Goodell is now holding his second term as Justice of the Peace. Self and wife are members of the Congregational Church. Politically, he is a Democrat.

GEORGE GEBHARTT, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; was born in France, now Germany, Jan. 3, 1828; is the fourth child of a family of eight children, born to Andrew and Katerine (Derr) Gebhartt, natives of Germany. Andrew Gebhartt was a tailor by trade, and died in Germany. Our subject was educated in the common schools of Germany, learning both the French and German languages, and remained with his parents engaged in farming until 1854, when he emigrated to America. He landed at New Orleans, thence came to Beardstown, this county, and immediately obtained employment on the farm of Gottlieb Nollieh, with whom he remained about two years. He then bought eighty acres of land, which he increased, till he now has 236 acres, after dividing 160 acres in Christian County, among his boys; he has on his farm a good residence and outbuildings. In this county, in 1857, he married Elizabeth Derr, a native of Germany, who has borne him eight children, six of whom are living, viz.: George W., John H., Amey, Franklin, Elizabeth, and Frederick William. Himself and wife have been members of the German Methodist church for twenty-seven years; he is a Republican.

A. D. GREIF, Pastor of German Lutheran Church, Chandlerville; was born in Meiningen, Germany, June 16, 1849, to C. F. and Susanna (Seugling) Greif, natives of Germany, where they are now living. Our subject was educated at Real Schule College, and in 1868 emigrated to America, and landed Oct. 15, 1868, in New York, where he began teaching German in the German American Institute, of Gerke Koessly, on Twenty-third street. His pupils paid \$300 per term; one of them was the son of President Arthur. In 1869 he attended the Lutheran Theological Seminary at St. Louis, and in 1870 graduated, and was ordained to the ministry by Dr. C. F. W. Walther. He went to Texas in July, 1870, where he took charge of a church at Independence, and afterward at Serbin. In December, 1875, he removed to Little Rock, Ark., where he took charge of a congregation for one and one-half years. In August, 1877, he removed to Chandlerville, this county, where he has since remained in charge of the German Lutheran Church. While in Texas, he met with several mishaps: once being bitten by a rattlesnake in the back of the head; again, by being threatened by a member of his congregation with a butcher-knife; and by being nearly drowned in quicksand. In New Orleans, April 17, 1874, he married Miss Louisa Odendahl, a native of Rostock, Mecklenburg, Germany; born Sept. 5, 1847. They have two children which they have adopted—Herman and Frieda Greif.

MOSES HARBISON, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville. The father of our subject was Adam B. Harbison; he was born in Virginia, on the 10th of April, 1797, and was taken to Kentucky by his parents, when a small boy; he was married in Kentucky, and emigrated to Cass County, Illinois, in December, 1839, where he engaged in farming, to the time of his death, which occurred Aug. 31, 1841. The mother of our subject was Hannah Rhea;

born in Barren County, Ky., on the 16th of May, 1808, and dying on the 25th of Nov. 1834. She was the mother of three children, of whom Moses Harbison is the only living child. He was born in Metcalf County, Ky., on the 3rd of Sept. 1831. His early life was spent at hard work; after the death of his father he made his home with John Dick and Marcus Trobridge; at the age of fifteen he commenced work for himself as a farm hand. In Cass County, Jan. 7, 1858, he married Miss Mary A. Davis; she was born in Cass County, Aug. 10, 1839, and died Jan. 17, 1863. In 1864, on the 13th of March, he married Miss Lydia F. Mason, who has borne him nine children: Sarah V., Charles C., Mary C., James A., Robert F., Estella F., Alice, Martha E., and Emma. He is now the owner of 376 acres of land, and is considered one of the substantial, enterprising citizens of Cass County.

FRIEDERICH HERRMANN, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; is a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, and son of Martin and Margaret Herrmann. He was born Feb. 16, 1824. His father was born in Germany, and during his life followed the occupation of a farmer; he died in 1846, aged sixty-five years. His mother was also a native of Germany. She died in 1853, aged seventy-two years. Our subject was educated in the common schools of Germany, and when quite young was apprenticed at the shoemaker's trade, which he followed in Germany until 1848, when he came to America. He made his first stop in Mason County, where he worked at his trade for six years, and then began farming. He came to Cass County in 1876, and is now the owner of 560 acres of land. In November, 1823, he married Catharine Smith, who has borne him five children: Leonard, Henry, Catharine, Fred, and Josephine, all of whom are at home. Mr. Herrmann and family are religiously connected with the German Luther-

an Church. He is a thorough business man, and highly esteemed by the community, and is always first in any public enterprise. He is a good neighbor, a kind husband, and an indulgent father.

ZACHARIAH HASH, retired farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; was born in Green County, April 6, 1812, to Philip and Sarah (Nance) Hash. Philip Hash, our subject's father, was born in Virginia, Jan. 31, 1790; emigrated to Kentucky with his parents when a small boy; in 1822, he came to Illinois, and settled in Cass County; followed the occupation of a farmer, served in the war of 1812. He died in Missouri, Aug. 5, 1849. He was a son of Thomas Hash, a native of Virginia; born Feb. 13, 1756, and died in Missouri, Dec. 5, 1848. Our subject's mother was born near Richmond, Va., Oct. 24, 1791, and died Feb. 24, 1847; she was a mother of fifteen children, of whom our subject was the second child; her father, Zachariah Nance, was born in Virginia, served through the Revolutionary war, under Washington. Our subject was brought to Illinois by his parents in 1822, and was educated principally in Sangamon, now Menard County. On June 26, 1834, he was married to Miss Mary Dick, a native of Kentucky; born Feb. 16, 1817, and died June 22, 1857; was the mother of seven children, of whom three are living, viz.: Phillip, Peter, and Martha, wife of John Plunkett. He first rented a farm in this county, on Sangamon Bottom; he has since been engaged in farming in this county, and is now living upon his farm, one mile southwest from Chandlerville, but has been retired from active labor for several years. His second marriage occurred in Mason County, April 3, 1862, to Mrs. Susan Shelton, formerly a Bowman; was born in Rutherford Co., Tenn., March 17, 1825; she is a daughter of Daniel Bowman, a native of Maryland, born March 11, 1799, and died Sept. 14, 1859. Mr. and Mrs. Hash

have had two children, both dead. Mr. Hash is the owner of about 200 acres of land; our subject and wife are members of the Christian Church. He is a Democrat. Mr. Hash says he was often compelled to give up his house on account of the Indians, and at other times used to associate among them. He was always very daring. Old Dr. Chandler, who first laid out Chandlerville, said he had doctored five generations of the Hash family.

ALBERT G. HAYNES, grain and implement dealer, Chandlerville; was born in Ross County, O., Dec. 22, 1835, to Joseph and Agnes (Clark) Haynes; he, born in Ohio in 1808, and removed to Illinois in 1854, settling in Cass County, where he died in 1856; she, born in Ohio, on June 13, 1812, and died in Cass County, June 13, 1872; she was the mother of eight children, our subject being the second child. At the death of his father, in 1856, he commenced farming on his own account. May 1, 1872, he removed to Chandlerville, engaged in the mercantile business for about six years, when he engaged in the grain and agricultural implement business, in the firm of A. G. Haynes & Co., in grain, and Bowman, Haynes & Co., in the implement business. In May, 1857, he married Miss Julia A. Benson, a native of Steuben County, N.Y.; she, born June 4, 1837; she is the mother of one child—Eva, born in 1860—at home. Mr. Haynes has been a member of the Town Board, and was President of the same. Politically he is a Democrat.

WILLIAM KIRCHNER, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; was born Jan. 19, 1834, in Germany; his parents were Gottlieb and Elizabeth (Aarps) Kirchner, natives of Germany. His father died in 1845, aged 48 years. He was a farmer. The mother of our subject died in 1842, aged 52 years. They were the parents of three children, William being the youngest. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-one years old, and then sailed for

America, landing in New York in July, 1854; for fifteen months his time was chiefly spent in Wisconsin and Michigan, engaged in the lumber business. In 1859, he came to Cass County, where he has since remained, engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is now the owner of 480 acres of good land. In Cass County, Dec. 26, 1858, he married Miss Elizabeth Yeck, who has borne him eight children, viz.: Mary, William, Louis, Matilda, Lizzie, Emma, Anna and Frank. Mr. and Mrs. Kirchner are members of the German Lutheran Church. Mr. Kirchner, as a farmer, is practical and prosperous; as a citizen he is enterprising and progressive, and, together with his estimable wife, are intelligent and esteemed citizens. He is a Democrat.

JOHN H. KINNEY, furniture and agricultural implements; was born in Chicago, Feb. 18, 1849, to John and Harriet (Smith) Kinney; he, born in Ireland, emigrated to America, and settled near Chicago, dying July 29, 1849; she, born in Ohio, in March 17, 1822, and died July, 1878; was the mother of two children, John H. being the youngest. When he was two years of age, he was given by his mother to his uncle, Seth Houston, and remained with him to the time of his death, which occurred in 1881. At the age of fourteen, Mr. Kinney began farming on his own account in Cass County, and continued the same until 1877, when he removed to Mason Co., and there also engaged in agricultural pursuits. Jan. 27, 1882, sold his farm in Mason Co. and removed to Chandlerville, where he engaged in partnership with Mr. A. G. Colson, in a large furniture and agricultural implement business. Mr. Kinney retained a fine farm of 100 acres, which he rents. May 20, 1869, he married Miss Sarah R. Keeth, a native of Mason Co., Ill., born Feb. 4, 1846, daughter of Zeph. and Luzannah Keeth. Mr. and Mrs. Kinney are the parents of 6 children, 4 of whom are living: Mary E.,

Lotta, and Luzannah E. He is a member of the Good Templars, and self and wife are connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Politically, he is identified with the prohibition party.

GENERAL C. E. LIPPINCOTT, retired physician; ex-auditor-general; was born at Edwardsville, Ill., on January 26, 1825, and is the son of Thomas Lippincott and Catherine *née* Leggett. His father removed to Illinois in 1818, and took a conspicuous stand against slavery. He afterward became a Presbyterian minister, and remained such until his death, which occurred in April, 1869. Mr. Lippincott's mother was the daughter of Major Abraham Leggett, of Revolutionary fame, and was married in 1821. Our subject after dividing his time between school and farm life for some years, went to the little village of Collinsonville, on the bluffs opposite St. Louis, and in company with several other young men, rented a house, worked for his means, and entered upon a systematic course of preparation for college. He afterward entered Illinois College, but being compelled to abandon his course before completing it, did not obtain his degree until some years later. In the spring of 1849 he graduated from the St. Louis Medical College. After he graduated he located at Chandlerville, and engaged in the practice of his profession. In the spring of 1852, owing to his failing health, Dr. Lippincott visited California. He remained there five years. While there Dr. Lippincott was elected to the senate by a large majority, and after serving out his term of two years, was re-nominated, but through trickery was defeated. In 1857, he returned to his home in Illinois and resumed his profession. At the breaking out of the Rebellion he raised almost an entire company, and after the quota of the State was filled, again resumed his practice. After the battle of Bull Run, he immediately wrote to Govern-

nor Yates tendering himself to the service in any capacity. The answer came, "Bring men." He enlisted a full company in one week, known as Company K of the Thirty-third Illinois Infantry, and was elected Captain. At the organization of the regiment, he was tendered the Lieutenant-Colonelcy by Governor Yates, but declined. Within six weeks after he entered the service he had a desperate fight, with but half his company against 300 rebels under General Jeff. Thompson. He was in command of the Thirty-third regiment from the spring of 1862 till the fall of Mobile. He was commissioned Captain of Company K, September 18, 1861; Lieutenant-Colonel, March 1, 1862; Colonel, September 5, 1862. Was mustered out September 16, 1865, as Brigadier-General. Upon his return to his home, General Lippincott was nominated Republican candidate for congress; the district had a Democratic majority of over 3,000, and he was defeated by about 500. In January, 1867, he was elected Secretary of the Illinois Senate; and during the session was chosen door-keeper of the House of Representatives at Washington. Before the expiration of that congress he was elected Auditor of Public Accounts of Illinois, and qualified during the first week of January, 1869, and was re-elected in 1872. He was married on December 25, 1851, to Miss Emily Webster Chandler, daughter of one of the earliest settlers of Cass County, a celebrated physician.

WILLIAM DUDLEY LEEPER, deceased; was a native of Greene County, Ky.; born Feb. 17, 1817, and was a son of Robert A., and Frances (Summers) Leeper; the former was born in Kentucky, and emigrated to Illinois in 1829, and came to Cass County in 1830, settling near Chandlerville; the latter (Mrs. Leeper) was also a native of Kentucky. They had nine children, of whom the subject was the second, and the eldest son. He was

educated principally in the common schools of the county, and remained with his parents to the time of their death. Of the entire family but one is now living—Robert, in California. Mr. Leeper, during his life, followed farming and stock-dealing, and by strict integrity and business energy amassed considerable wealth. He was married June 17, 1858, in Beardstown. His second wife was Mary Hermyer, a native of Germany, and was born Sept. 30, 1832. She was a daughter of Henry Hermyer, who was born in Germany, and came to Beardstown at an early day. By his first marriage Mr. Leeper had three children, viz.: George W., Albert A. and Arthur. By his second marriage he had two children—Mary E. and Henry S. Mrs. Leeper and her daughter are members of the Christian church.

JACOB METZMAKER, Jr., proprietor Park House, Chandlerville; was born in Augusta County, Va. on the 16th of January, 1844, and is the son of Jacob and Susan (Chapman) Metzmaker. Jacob, Sr., was born in Augusta County, Va., Jan. 1, 1803; he emigrated with his family to Cass County, and settled in Virginia in the fall of 1855. His business is that of a farmer, at which he still continues in his seventy-ninth year. His wife, and mother of our subject, was born in Rockingham County, Va., in 1802, and died in Cass County in 1871; she was the mother of twelve children, ten girls and two boys. Jacob, Jr., our subject, was the ninth child. His education was advanced in Augusta County, as he says, "as far as the single rule of three." He also attended the High School at Virginia, Cass County; he remained with his parents until he was twenty-one years of age, and then embarked on his career in life as a farmer. He continued farming until 1881, when he came to Chandlerville and bought the Park House. He was married Nov. 15, 1867, to Pris-

cilla Evans, a native of Morgan County; she has borne him the following children: Ethel G., born Feb 5, 1869; Veffie G., born March 5, 1870; Otto O., born July 1, 1871; Eulalie, born May 7, 1875. Mr. Metzmaker served the people of Virginia as Precinct Constable and City Police, and is filling the same office in Chandlerville to the entire satisfaction of the community. He has the only public place of entertainment of the place; by careful management and study of the needs of the traveling public, he is making a success of the business. Mr. Metzmaker is a Republican; he is a stirring, energetic man, who has been careful to dabble in no business to bring his name into disrepute, and as a consequence he enjoys an honorable name and reputation.

CHARLES McKEE, lumber merchant, Chandlerville, was born in Bristol, Connecticut, Sept. 3, 1833, to Levi and Sophia (Alcott) McKee; he was born in Connecticut, and emigrated to Illinois in 1843, settling in Hancock County, and in 1846 removed to Cass County; was a wagon-maker, and died in Chandlerville. His wife, the mother of our subject, was a native of Connecticut, and died in 1877; she was the mother of nine children, of whom Charles was the sixth. At about twenty years of age he apprenticed himself at the wagon-maker's trade, and worked at the same until 1860, when he engaged as clerk in a drug store in Chandlerville, and continued for about four years. In 1864 he went west to Kansas and Iowa, where he clerked for about two and a half years. In 1867 he returned to Chandlerville, and in 1876 engaged in partnership with Mr. Goodell, in the lumber business. In 1860 he married Ellen Thompson, a native of Ireland; born in 1842 and dying in 1862; leaving two children, one of whom is still living: Robert J. Mr. McKee is a Mason, a member of the Congregational church, and a Republican.



W. K. MERTZ, banker, Chandlerville; he was born in Beardstown, Cass Co., Dec. 18, 1853, to J. Henry and Louisa E. (Hardt) Mertz; he was born in Germany, in 1810, emigrated to America in 1850, and settled in Williamsburg, N. Y., but soon after removed to Chicago, where he remained but one year, when he removed to Beardstown, Cass Co., dying in 1875; his wife, the mother of our subject, was also born in Germany, in 1814, and is now residing in Beardstown, enjoying good health; she is the mother of six children, of whom W. K. is the fifth. Our subject for several years clerked at various places, and in April, 1872, came to Chandlerville and entered the employ of Lippincott, Chandler & Co, bankers, and remained with them until they sold out, in February, 1881, when he became a partner in the firm of Petefish, Skiles & Mertz, and has since conducted the business. On June 23, 1870, he married Miss Kate Norton, in Cass County, daughter of P. T. Norton, of Chandlerville. She died May 5, 1881, leaving one child, William Norton. Mr. Mertz is Township Treasurer, and a member of the town board. Politically, he is a Republican.

GOTTLIEB NÖLLSCH, farmer, P. O., Chandlerville, whose portrait appears in this work, was born April 3, 1822, in Dürnau, Wurtemberg, Germany. His parents, John R. and Elizabeth (Gerber) Nöllsch, kept a hotel and bakery. They had eleven children, as follows: John L., living in this county; John P., in Quincy, Ill.; Mary, deceased; John E., deceased; Mary Duchardt, Cass county; John, Springfield; Gottlieb, this county; Lena Eckart, this county; Thomas, Montgomery County, Kansas; Frederick, deceased, in August, 1841. Mr. Nöllsch's parents removed to Illinois, and settled three miles from the present site of Virginia. Gottlieb remained at home, working on the farm, until he was about twenty-six years old. On

March 12, 1848, he was married to Miss Dorothy Lutz, daughter of Laurence Lutz, who is of French birth. Her parents removed to this county in 1837. Mr. Nöllsch had born to him six children, as follows: Laurence, born Dec. 11, 1851; infant, Nov. 7, 1853, died at birth; William Henry, March 23, 1855; Gottlieb Benjamin, April 12, 1857, deceased October, 1859; Carl Edward, June 19, 1859, deceased January, 1869; Gottlieb Benjamin, March 2, 1862. His oldest son, Laurence, was married March 11, 1873, to Martha E. Jokisch. They have five children: Susan, Louisa, Bismark, Charley and Albert. In 1851, Mr. Nöllsch bought his first land, one hundred and sixty acres, and he began buying and feeding cattle and hogs. He paid off the first purchase, and has since continued to add to the farm, until at present he owns eight hundred and forty-five acres of land, under a high state of cultivation. The family residence is a beautiful and commodious brick structure, built by the design of Mr. Nöllsch. On Sept. 24, 1864, Mrs. Nöllsch was called to leave her companion and children. She was a member of the German Methodist church from childhood. On Nov. 28, 1864, Mr. Nöllsch was again married to Mrs. Catharine Manler, widow of Henry Mauler, and daughter of John and Barbara Hübiger. She had two children by her first husband, Amelia E., born July 5, 1858, Caroline, May 15, 1860. By this wife, Mr. Nöllsch has born to him seven children: Annie Margaret, born Oct. 8, 1865; Mary Magdaline, Feb. 10, 1867; Adolph Walter, Nov. 22, 1868; George Thomas, Oct. 18, 1870; George Herman, March 22, 1873; Alfred, Dec. 5, 1876; Phillip, July 13, 1879. Mr. Nöllsch and lady are members of the German Methodist Church, in which denomination they have faithfully served their Master, the former for thirty-four years, and the latter twenty-eight years.

PIUS NEFF, merchant; Chandlerville;

was born in Germany, April 29, 1834, to Ignatz and Mary A. (Bower) Neff. Our subject attended the common schools of Germany until he was ten years of age, when with his parents he emigrated to Pennsylvania, where he succeeded in acquiring a good business education. At the age of twenty-three he began working upon a farm, which he continued for several years, when he entered the store of J. J. Mish, of Peoria, as clerk, where he continued until 1863, when he started a grocery store in Peoria. In 1864 he sold out his business, and removed to Chandlerville, where he has since remained engaged in mercantile business, being one of the leading business men of Chandlerville. In 1857, in Pennsylvania, he married Miss Elizabeth Claus, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1833. She is the mother of eleven children, six of whom are now living, viz.: Mary, wife of Jacob Euteneuer, of Havana, Ill.; Frank, George, Gustavus, William, and Leo. The father of our subject was born in Germany, in 1800, and died in 1871. He was in the old country a potter, and in America followed farming; he came to America in 1844. The mother of our subject was born in Germany in 1802, and is now residing in Pennsylvania, enjoying good health; she is the mother of eleven children, of whom Pius Neff was the sixth. He has been School Treasurer of Chandlerville Township for ten years, and still holding that office. He has held Town Board office six times, and acted as President of the Board for three terms. Our subject and family are members of the Catholic church. Politically, he is a Democrat. When Mr. Neff first came, he was one of the Board of School Directors, and with the other members, was influential in building the large and commodious school house of the city.

WILLIAM A. NEILL, postmaster, Chandlerville; was born in Knox County, O.,

April 18, 1841, to William and Sarah (Gibson) Neill. William Neill, our subject's father, was born in Pennsylvania, in February 1807; removed to Ohio at an early day, and from Ohio to Illinois in 1848, and settled in Morgan County, where he is now residing; has followed the occupation of a farmer, but is now retired. His wife, and mother of our subject, was born in Ohio, in 1812, and is still living; she is the mother of twelve children, of whom William, our subject, and John F., of Arcadia, Ill., are living. Our subject lived at home till he was twenty-one years of age, when he enlisted in Co. G, Thirty-fourth Illinois, under command of Col. Ed. P. Kirk, and served for seven months. He then returned to Morgan County, and was apprenticed to the harness maker's trade, and worked there for about one and a half years. In May, 1865, he moved to Chandlerville, where he worked as a journeyman at his trade for several years, and in 1870 opened a harness shop there. In 1876 he was appointed postmaster, which office he is now holding; he also works some at his trade; and also does some first class job printing, for the accommodation of the business men of town and vicinity; and also keeps a stationery and cigar store, in connection with his other business. On Feb. 21, 1866, he married Maria J. Parr, a native of Illinois, daughter of Oliver Parr (deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Neill are the parents of one child, Fred; born May 24, 1879. Mrs. Neill is a member of the Congregational Church, and Mr. Neill of the Methodist. He is a Republican, and cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, the first time he ran.

PHILO T. NORTON, tin and hardware; Chandlerville; was born in Wheeling, Va., April 29, 1826, to Thomas P. and Mary E. (Goldenborough) Norton; he, born in Massachusetts, and emigrated to Burton, O., in 1812 removed to Pittsburg, Pa., in 1822 removed to Wheeling, Va., and in 1844 emigrated to Cass County, and settled in Beardstown, where he

remained to the time of his death, which occurred in 1852; his wife was also a native of Wheeling, where she died, and was the mother of seven children, Philo T. being the oldest. He was a cabin-boy on a steamer on the Ohio, and at the age of eighteen years came with his parents to Beardstown, Cass County, and with his father, started a tin and hardware store. In 1859 he came to Chandlerville, where he also engaged in the tin business, being one of the leading business men of the town. In 1852, in Beardstown, he married Miss Mary E. Clark, a native of Beardstown, who is now dead; she was the mother of four children, two of whom are now living: Charles C. and Emma. In Beardstown Mr. Norton acted as Marshal for two years (in 1852 and 1858), and also Deputy Sheriff and Coroner for eight years, being elected in 1846; he is a member of the A. F. and A. M., and a Democrat.

CAPT. SHERMAN PADDOCK, retired sea captain, Chandlerville; was born in Middletown, Conn., June 4, 1831, to Joseph and Mary H. (Austin) Paddock; he, born in Connecticut in October, 1798; followed the occupation of a farmer, and died in his native State Dec. 6, 1877; his wife, the mother of our subject, was born in Connecticut, May 3, 1799, and died in the same State Jan. 8, 1881; she was the mother of five children, of whom the Captain was the fourth. He received his education in the schools of his native county, and at the age of fourteen made his first voyage to the island of Santa Cruz. At the age of seventeen was second mate of a vessel, and at the age of eighteen became first mate, and continued as first mate until he was twenty-two years of age, at which time he became master, and served in that position until July 15, 1879 on different classes of vessels. The Captain has made many trips to Europe, South America, the East Indies, and, in fact, to nearly all parts of the world. During his sea life he became

interested in the ownership of several vessels, and is at the present time part owner in several vessels. In 1879 he made up his mind to retire from sea life, and in August of that year, removed his family to his present residence, it being his intention to remain here until the Supreme Captain of the Watch should call him to his last "eight bells below." The Captain enjoys good health, and is considered one of the substantial men of Cass County. In 1852, he was married to Miss Henrietta Spencer, a native of Middletown, Conn. She died in 1870, leaving two children: Carry, residing in Middletown, Conn., and Frederick S., of Connecticut. July 28, 1880, he married Caroline Joeekel, a native of Indiana. Politically, is identified with the Democratic party. In his sea life he never met with an accident. His oldest brother was one of the oldest settlers of Chandlerville.

JEPHTHA PLASTER, retired farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; he was born on the 19th day of March, 1827, in Robertson County, Tenn., and is the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Batts) Plaster. Thomas Plaster, his father, was born in Robertson County, Tenn., on the 6th day of May, 1803; emigrated to Cass County, Ill., in 1828, where he entered a small tract of land. He followed farming until his death, which occurred May 20, 1858. He served in the "Black Hawk" war. His mother was born in Robertson County, Tenn., in 1803, and died in 1853. Mr. Plaster's early education was quite limited, although later in life he succeeded in gaining a good practical business education. He followed farming, until the spring of 1881, with the exception of about one year, while he was engaged in mining in California. In 1880, he erected, by his own design, a large commodious residence in Chandlerville, where he now resides. He is now the owner of about 900 acres of land, the most of which is under a high state of cultivation. Our subject was

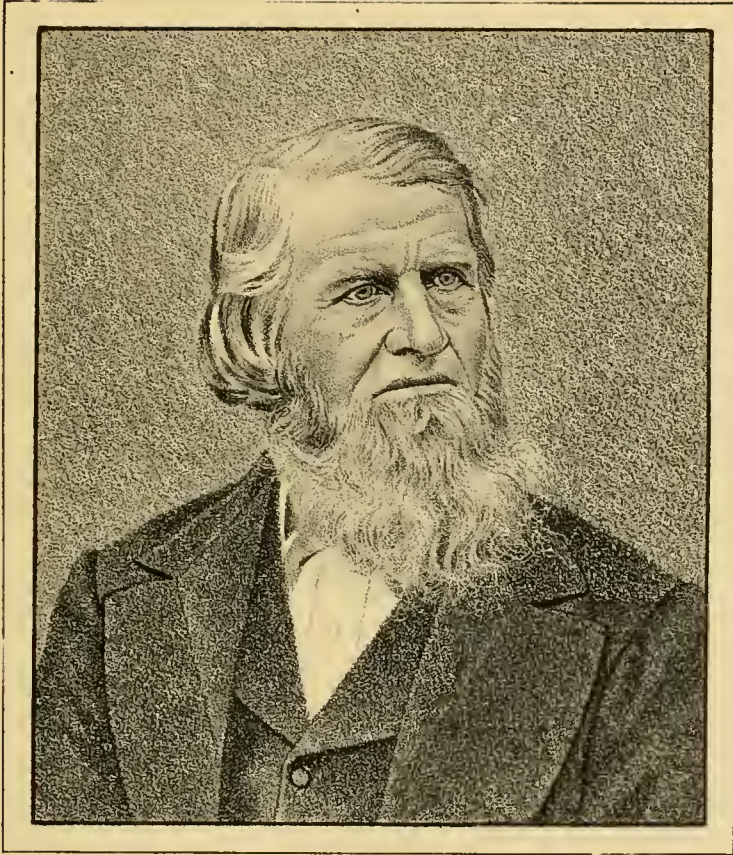
married in Mason County, Oct. 14, 1858, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of John and Rosanna (Adkins) Johnson. Mrs. Plaster was born in Cass County, on the 15th of March, 1838. Mr. Plaster was elected, and served the people four years, as Associate Justice.

A. M. PENDLETON, dealer in grain and agricultural implements, Chandlerville; was born in Monroe County, Mo., Dec. 28, 1840, to John and Elizabeth (Odell) Pendleton. John Pendleton was born in Culpepper County, Va., Aug. 1, 1805; emigrated to Missouri in 1830, where he is now residing, engaged in farming. His wife, the mother of our subject, was born in Rappahannock, Va., Aug. 22, 1812, and died in 1871. She was the mother of ten children, of whom Arthur M. was the third; of the ten children but four are now living. At about the age of twenty-one years, he entered as clerk in a drug store in Paris, Mo., where he continued until about the time of the war. In 1861, he enlisted in the Third Missouri Reg. State Troops, and served for about fifteen months. After his return from the army, he again engaged as clerk in a dry goods store at St. Louis, and various other places. In 1867, he removed to Illinois, and engaged in teaching school in Menard and Cass Counties, and in Chandlerville High School, of which he was Principal for three years and a half. In 1879, he engaged in the grain and agricultural implement business. In 1869, he married Miss Hester Hewitt, a native of New Jersey; born Nov. 9, 1843; she is the mother of three children, two of whom are living: Stella, aged ten years, and Arthur M., jr., aged eight. Is a member of the A. F. and A. M.; is Secretary of the Lodge. He has held the office of Village Clerk for two years. Politically, Democratic.

N. S. READ, M. D., Chandlerville, was born in Ashtabula County, O., July 25, 1820, to Ira and Mary (Smith) Read; he, born in Tying-

ham, Mass., Feb. 25, 1790; he was a farmer; emigrated to Ohio about 1815, and died Oct. 21, 1861; she was born in Tyringham, Mass., July 23, 1790, and died April 21, 1869; was the mother of six children, four boys and two girls, N. S. being the third. Of the six children, five are now living. In 1841, our subject began the study of medicine, with his brother, A. N. Read, of Norwalk, O. In 1842 entered the medical college at Cleveland, O., and graduated in 1844. His first practice of his profession was in Ashtabula County, O. In 1846 he removed to Geauga County, O., where he remained until 1852, when he removed to Illinois and settled in Chandlerville, his present residence, where he has since remained. Oct. 1, 1844, in Geauga County, O., he married Miss Lydia C. Canfield, a native of Geauga County, born Jan. 11, 1826. She is the daughter of Orin and Anna (Beard) Canfield. Mr. and Mrs. Read are the parents of five children, two of whom are now living: Ira, and Lucy, wife of John Morse, of Chandlerville. He is an active member of the A. F. & A. M., and of the Chapter. Self and family are members of the Congregational Church, and he has acted as superintendent of the Sunday school for twenty-nine consecutive years. Politically, he is a Republican. Is a member of the Morgan County Medical Society, the Illinois State Society, and the American Medical Association.

PETER W. RICKARD, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; is a native of Windham County, Connecticut. He was born Aug. 26, 1823, and is the son of Peter and Mary (Heley) Rickard. His father was born in Massachusetts, in 1769, and died in July, 1823. He was killed in the Revolutionary war. His mother was also a native of Massachusetts. She was born in 1783, and died in 1852. Peter W. was educated in Connecticut in the Duley and Thompson Academies. His early life was spent at the



*Gottlieb Köllsch*



home of his brother-in-law, Erastus Childs. In 1844, he came to Cass County, where he has since remained, engaged in teaching school, merchandising and farming. At the present time he is tilling the soil of 220 acres of well improved land. In 1846 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Peas, who bore him one child, Henry, now living in Morgan County. He married a second time, Mary Harbison, who died a few years afterward, and in 1859 he married Mary C. Taylor, who has borne him six children, viz.: Charles E., John T., Frank M., Emma and James A. Mr. Rickard is a Republican, and he and Mrs. Rickard are members of the Congregational Church.

JOSEPH RAWORTH, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; was born in Sheffield, England, Dec. 20, 1820, and is the eldest of two children, born to Ebenezer H. and Sarah (Wing) Raworth, natives of England. Ebenezer H. Raworth, who was a grocer, died Aug. 11, 1858, aged sixty-six years, and was interred at the Cemetery Church, Sheffield, England; his wife, born in 1799, died in 1824. Joseph received his primary education in the parish schools, finishing at Mooregate Academy, near Rotherham, England. In 1844, he came to America, landed in New Orleans the fifth of April that year, engaged in steamboating two years, taught school three months in 1846, went to Scott County, Ills., and began farming, and in 1860 came to this county. He has since followed farming in this county, and now has 105 acres here and 320 acres in Nebraska, all of which has been made by his own labors, he having had only a crown in his pocket when he landed in New Orleans. He married in Mason County, Ills., in August 1857, Alice Tomlinson, a native of England, born in February, 1832. From this union six children have been born: Ebenezer, Mary, John, Emeline (deceased), Elizabeth, and Richard D. Mr. Raworth is a Greenbacker; he and his wife are Methodists.

ALFRED T. SMITH, miller, Chandlerville; was born in Chemung County, N. Y., Jan. 20, 1831, to Samuel and Anna (Roads) Smith. Samuel Smith was born in New York, November 27, 1790; removed to Illinois in fall of 1837, and settled in Menard County, where he followed the occupation of a farmer; in 1852 he removed to this county, where he also engaged in farming; he died Jan. 21, 1876; he was in the war of 1812. His wife, and mother of our subject, was born in Dutchess County, N. Y., January 15, 1802, and died July 11, 1876; she was the mother of ten children, five boys and five girls, all of whom lived to maturity. Of the ten children, Alfred T. was the fifth child. When six years of age he came to Illinois with his parents, and at the age of twenty-two engaged as a farm hand; he continued in that occupation about three years; then followed the trade of house painting in this county, until 1879, when he engaged in the milling business with Mr. W. W. Baker, at Chandlerville; the present firm is Smith and Carr; their mill is called Chandlerville Mills, and makes the well known brand of "Gilt Edge," flour in which they have a large trade. The mill has now a capacity of fourteen barrels per day, and they intend enlarging and improving it. April 15, 1866, he married Miss Laura J. Chapman, a native of Illinois, born Sept. 24, 1842, daughter of Jesse M., and Margaret (McGahan) Chapman; he, born March 4, 1794, died November 5, 1871; she, born August 8, 1800, died April 27, 1848. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have five children: Albert, Charles C., Anna M., Laura and Edward. He is independent in politics.

B. H. SHANKLAND, retired farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; was born in Nicholas County, Ky., Nov. 23, 1843, son of A. G. and Judith (Stoops) Shankland. He, A. G., was a native of Nicholas County, Ky., and was married Dec. 29, 1825, moving to Brown County,

Ill., in 1853, where he remained till 1856, when he moved to his late residence, where he lived till death called him away, May 7, 1881, aged 74 years. He raised a family of nine children, four girls and five boys, all of whom are living, except one, Mrs. James Plew, who died three years ago. Mr. Shankland was a useful and consistent member of the Methodist Church for over fifty years, and was loved and respected by all who knew him. His wife, who is still living in Brown County, was also a native of Nicholas County, Ky., and was born within 11 days of the birth of her husband. At the age of 19, our subject left home, and began farming on his own account, but removed in 1874 to this county. In April, 1881, he retired from farming, and removed to Chandlerville. He owns about 600 acres of land. April 3, 1861, he married Miss Henrietta Briggs, a native of Brown County, who died in 1871, leaving five children, only one of whom is now living, Laura Belle, born Nov. 24, 1871. Feb. 2, 1876, he married Mrs. Elizabeth Dick, of Menard County, daughter of William and Jane Peak, natives of Kentucky. Two children are the result of this union: Lee, born May 30, 1878, and Ora, born May 20, 1881. Mr. Shankland served in the late war about six months, as a member of Company F, 135th Reg. Ind. Vol. He and wife are Methodists, and he is an A. F. and A. M., and a Democrat.

THOMAS P. TAYLOR, retired merchant, Chandlerville; was born in Lancashire, England, June 18, 1828, to Mark and Ann (Scott) Taylor; he, born in Lancashire, England, in 1779, and died in 1844; she, born in Lancashire, England, in 1789, and died in 1864; she was the mother of thirteen children, of whom Thomas was the eighth. He began working in a cotton factory when eight years old, and was principally engaged in the factory until he was twenty-two years of age, when he came to America, and made his first stop in

Delaware County, Penn., and engaged in a woolen mill. In 1853, he went to Pottsville, Penn., and from there to Delaware, and then returned to Pennsylvania and remained about twelve months. In 1855, he removed to Illinois, and settled in Morgan County. In March, 1856, he removed to Cass County, and settled on the bottom lands, and engaged with one Mr. Fielding upon a farm, until 1862, when he bought a farm of about 250 acres in Cass County, and began farming on his own account. In 1877 he removed to Chandlerville, and engaged in mercantile business, which he continued until April, 1882, when he sold his business to Mr. Morse, and retired from active labor. In July, 1862, he married Miss Ann Fielding, a native of England; born Feb. 28, 1821; a daughter of James and Betty (Bellfield) Fielding. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were the parents of one child, who is dead. Our subject and wife are members of the Baptist Church. Politically, he is a Republican.

Z. A. THOMPSON, merchant; Chandlerville; was born in Petersburg, Ill., Dec. 27, 1858, to Aaron and Amanda (Flinn) Thompson; his father was born in New Jersey, Jan. 28, 1810; was a sea captain and emigrated to Illinois about 1830, settling in Sangamon County, and removed to Menard County in 1835, where he is still residing, engaged extensively in stock raising and farming. His wife, the mother of our subject, was born in Hopkinsville, Kentucky, Sept. 22, 1837, and is the mother of five children, of whom L. A. Thompson is the second child. In addition to the ordinary schools, he attended the Illinois College from 1874 to 1877, and in 1878 he entered the University of Ann Arbor, Mich., where he studied law. In 1879, he engaged in the mercantile business at Chandlerville, where he has since remained engaged in the same business, and is at the present time considered one of the leading business



men of the town. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M. Politically, he is identified with the Democratic party.

PETER VOLLMERR, grocer; Chandler-ville; was born in Hanover, Germany, Aug. 6, 1848, to Peter and Margaret (Klinck) Vollmerr; he was born in Germany, where he followed the occupation of a farmer, dying in 1881, aged eighty years. His wife, the mother of our subject, was also a native of Germany, where she died when Peter was an infant. They were the parents of six boys and one girl, our subject being the only one in America. He left his home when he was twenty years of age, and landed in New York, Dec. 14, 1868; then went to Charleston, South Carolina, where he remained two years. In 1870 he came to Chandlerville, where he engaged as a farm hand for about four years, when he built a fine brick block, and started in the grocery business, where he also conducts a bakery. He has met with good success, having commenced poor, and is now among the leading business men of Chandler-ville. He was married in Cass County in 1876, to Miss Lettie Durring, a native of Germany, who is the mother of two children: Alice and John. He and wife are members of the German Lutheran Church; and he is a Democrat.

WILLIAM L. WAY, grain dealer, Chandler-ville; was born in Crawford County, Ind., Nov. 3, 1833, to Samuel and Ruth (Parr) Way. Samuel Way was born in Bristol, England; emigrated to Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 18, 1819, and settled in Crawford County, Ind., where he married; he came to this county in November, 1827, where he followed farming to the time of his death, which occurred in 1836; his wife was born in Adair County, Ky., and died in Chandler-ville, this county, in April, 1864; she was the mother of seven children, five boys and two girls, our subject being the oldest. At twenty-four years of age he engaged as

clerk in a store in Morgan County, Ill., and after two years went to Beardstown, where he was engaged by John McDonald, as dry goods and grocery clerk. He remained with Mr. McDonald as clerk, one year, when the latter started him in business in Chandlerville under the firm name W. L. Way & Co., and after continuing under that name three years, Mr. Way bought out the interest of his employer, and carried on the business alone until 1865, when he sold out and went to Iowa, where he sold goods and packed pork. In 1867 he returned to Chandlerville, where he has since remained, engaged in the grain and mercantile business. He was married in this county in 1864, to Emeline, daughter of David Carr, and a native of this county. They have three boys: David Henry, assisting his father in the grain business, Thomas Edward and William Carr, also assisting their father. He is a member of the A. F. and A. M., and I. O. O. F.

ELIJAH WATKINS, livery and sale stable, Chandlerville; was born in Cass County, Ill., Feb. 3, 1859, and is the son of William and Emeline (Hinchee) Watkins. His early life was spent in receiving such an education as the common schools of his native county afforded, and assisting in tilling the soil of his father's farm. Being raised on a farm, Mr. Watkins in 1879 began farming on his own account, working a farm of sixty-five acres. In 1882 he bought, of Mr. Philo T. Norton, the sale and livery stable which he is now managing. By careful management, and study of the needs of the traveling public, he is making a success of this business. In 1879, he was married to Miss Anna Cone. Two children are the result of this union, viz.: Ora Lee, and an infant (unnamed).

FRANK ZILLION, farmer, P.O. Virginia; is a native of Prussia, Germany; born Aug. 24, 1825; son of Godfried and Louisa (Prong) Zillion, natives of Germany, where they both died. He is the fifth child of a family of

eight children, and received his education in the common schools of his native land. At the age of sixteen he apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade, at which he worked till 1855, when he emigrated to America, and landed in New York; moved to Illinois the same week; worked at Quincy at his trade for about a month, then came to this county, settled in Virginia, and worked by the month on a farm for three years. In 1858, he rented land in Sangamon County, Ill., which he farmed two years, then came back to this county and en-

listed in the 6th Ill. Cavalry, and after serving four years and two months, returned to this county, where he bought eighty acres of land, and has since followed farming. During his services he took part under Gen. Hunt, in the engagements around Nashville, Tenn. He married in this county in 1866, Kate Yeomans; they have nine children, of whom seven are living, viz.: Joseph, Charles, Willie, Eliza, Frank, John, and Kate. Mr. Zillion is a Republican.

**ASHLAND PRECINCT.**

ISAAC N. BEAVER, druggist, Ashland, was born in Champaign County, Ohio, January 3, 1833, to Isaac and Rachael (Boyer) Beaver, natives of Virginia. His father was born January 5, 1793, and was a farmer by occupation; his death occurred May 1, 1847; his wife died in 1839, aged about thirty-five years; she was the mother of eight children, of whom Isaac was the sixth child. When he was thirteen years of age, he engaged to learn the trade of a tanner, at which business he remained about nine years, after which he farmed ten or fifteen years, and then entered the drug business. In the spring of 1880, he came to Ashland, this county, where he purchased the drug business of B. C. Randall, and has since continued in that business, at which he has been more than ordinarily successful, and has built up a large and steadily increasing business. He was married in Champaign County, Ohio, March 7, 1854, to Miss Ruannah Hess, who was born in Seneca County, Ohio, June 26, 1832; she is the mother of six children, of whom three are still living, the balance of whom died in infancy; those living are Ella, wife of Dr. Shannon, of Industry, Ill; Romanus, living at home and interested in the drug business with his father; Orra, residing at Industry, engaged in the drug business, with his brother-in-law, Dr. Shannon. Mrs. Beaver is a daughter of Abraham and Sarah (Zerkle) Hess, natives of Virginia, and of German descent; both still living near Industry, Illinois. Mr. Beaver has been an active member of the fraternity of A. F. and A. M. for about 26 years, and has held offices of more or less importance about one-half of the time. Politically he has been a life long Republican;

always takes a part in any county enterprise that favors the interest of the county, such as churches, schools, and all other public improvements.

JOHN BLANK, hardware merchant; Ashland; was born in Germany, Nov. 15, 1840; received his education in his native land, and assisted in a bakery until he was seventeen years of age, when he emigrated to America, and located at Quincy, Illinois, where he remained about five years, and during the time learned the trade of a tinner. In 1871 he removed to Ashland, and worked for a Mr. Cullum, whom he bought out, and continued the business upon his own account; at present his store is well stocked with the goods usually found in a hardware store and tinshop combined. He was married Nov. 25, 1867, to Almira Best, who was born in Cass County, June 19, 1850; she is the mother of four children: Leonia, Delia, Gertrude and John. Mrs. Blank is a daughter of Wilson J. and Nancy (Miller) Best. John Blank, Senior, was a native of Germany, a farmer by occupation, and died in 1864, aged sixty years. Christenia Blank, his wife, was also a native of Germany, and died in 1847, aged about fifty-two years; they had six children, of whom John was the youngest. Although he is a man not much interested in politics, his sympathies are with the Republican party.

ALONZO F. BURNHAM, physician and surgeon, Ashland; was born in Mason County, Ill. June 29, 1853; son of Henry C. and Angelina (Currier) Burnham. Henry C. Burnham, a farmer by occupation, was born at Hampton, Windham Co., Conn., Jan. 30, 1826, and has, since 1853, resided in Salt Creek Township, Mason Co., Ill.; his wife

was born at Canandaigua, Ontario Co., N. Y., Dec. 16, 1825; they are the parents of seven children. The doctor received his primary education in the country schools, and afterward attended an academy, after which he taught school and worked on the farm. At the age of twenty-two he began the study of medicine with Dr. J. P. Walker, of Mason City, Ill.; and attended the Rush Medical College three winter terms and one summer term, and graduated in 1878. He came to Ashland, April 3, 1878, and entered into partnership with Dr. John Walker; they practiced in company until October, 1880, when, on account of ill health, Dr. Walker retired from the practice of his profession, and Dr. Burnham has since practiced alone, meeting with good success. He was married Oct. 29, 1879, in Mason Co., Ill., to Emma Blunt, a native of that county, born Jan. 3, 1859, daughter of A. A. and Martha A. (Trailor) Blunt; he was born in Hart Co., Ky., Feb. 21, 1831; she was born in Springfield, Ill., June 23, 1831; from this union they have had one child, P. Garfield, born April 4, 1881, died Aug. 2, 1881. The doctor is a Republican and a member of the I. O. O. F., the K. of H. and the A. O. F.

JOHN BEGGS, farmer and stock-dealer; P. O. Ashland; was born in Morgan County, Illinois, Aug. 7, 1831. At the age of eighteen he began farming in Morgan County, where he remained until 1858, when he removed to his present place of residence, where he has since remained, engaged more or less extensively in farming and in stock-dealing. His large and commodious farm residence is one of the finest in the county. He has been identified with the Republican party since the days of the old line Whigs. He was married in Cass County, Dec. 18, 1855, to Miss Sallie Sinclair, daughter of Samuel and Malinda (Bird) Sinclair, natives of Kentucky, both deceased. Mrs. Beggs was born in Morgan

County, March 16, 1834. She is the mother of seven children, viz.: Emma, wife of Edward C. Beggs, of Ashland; Anna, Charles S., John T., Nellie, Myra and Samuel W. Charles Beggs, the father of our subject, was born in Rockingham County, Va., Oct. 30, 1775; he was a farmer by occupation, and was a noted politician at an early day, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention that framed the constitution of Indiana; he served several terms in the Legislature of Indiana, and was captain of cavalry in the war of 1812, and was in the engagement at Tippecanoe; his death occurred Oct. 21, 1869. His wife, Mary Ruddell, a native of Hardy Co., Va., was born April 28, 1790, and died Aug. 4, 1871. She was the mother of nine children, of whom John, the subject of the sketch was the youngest. Religiously, himself and wife are connected with the Methodist Church.

JOSEPH BOWERS, farmer, P. O. Ashland, was born in Derbyshire, England, Nov. 26, 1816. His early life was spent in the cotton factories of England, and when twenty-eight-years of age he emigrated to America, and located at Philadelphia; in 1849 he moved to Cass County, Illinois, and took upon himself the duties of farm life; in 1858 he purchased a quarter section of wild prairie, upon which he now resides. He was married in Cass County, July 19, 1846. His wife, Hannah Gill, was born in Yorkshire, England, March 6, 1817; she has borne him seven children: Richard, a prominent young farmer, living near the homestead; James, in Denver, Colorado, speculating in mines; Mary A., wife of Wat Sinclair; Thomas, farmer, single, living at home; Jennie, wife of John Sinclair, living near home; William, a graduate of the Illinois College, at Jacksonville, a teacher by profession; Joseph, at home. Mrs. Bowers was a daughter of Richard and Betty (Hinchcliff,) Gill, native of England, deceased.

Joseph Bowers, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a native of England, a mechanic by occupation; born March 4, 1790; died April 8, 1854. Betty Howe, his wife, was also a native of England; born August 1, 1793; died December 29, 1856; they were the parents of fifteen children, of whom only four are now living, and of whom Joseph is the third child. Mrs. Bowers is a Methodist, and Mr. Bowers has always been identified with the Republican party.

JOHN L. DOUGLASS, retired blacksmith, Ashland; was born at Madison, Jefferson Co., Ind., June 3, 1823; son of Asahel and Jane (Kikindall) Douglass. Asahel, a native of Connecticut, was born May 19, 1791, and died Jan. 21, 1880; his wife, born in Pennsylvania, Nov. 6, 1802, died Nov. 28, 1879; they were the parents of eleven children; John L., when two years of age, went with his parents to Lexington, Ky., thence to Metcalfe Co., that State, where his youth was spent in assisting his father in his mercantile and trading interests. When about twenty years of age he began blacksmithing with his father, and after having learned the trade, came, in 1857, to Virginia, this county, and the following year removed to Ashland, and purchased a shop which had been in operation but a few months. Here he continued in business until 1881. He served as magistrate one year, and is now performing the duties of that office, having been re-elected in the fall of 1881. During the late war, he entered the service in Co. I, 1st I. V. I., under Capt. Jesse F. Newman, the regiment being commanded by Col. Charles Fox, and remained in service three years. In Adair Co., Ky., April 27, 1847, he married America E. Yates, born in Kentucky, May 31, 1831, daughter of Melford and Catherine (Creels) Yates, natives of Adair Co., that State. From this union twelve children have been born, viz.: Melford A., John W. O., Jane C., Orrin A. (died July 12,

1858; was the first person who died in Ashland), Louan, Rebecca C., Luther H., Maud L., Maria O., Mary E., George T., and Reuben C. M. Douglass and wife are connected with the Methodist church; he has been an active member of the I. O. O. F., for a number of years; was one of the charter members of Oak Lodge No. 341, at Ashland. He was originally an old line Whig, and is now a Republican.

WILLIAM S. DOUGLASS, retired carpenter, Ashland; was born in Lexington, Ky., July 1, 1827. He received an ordinary education, and at the age of 22, left home and engaged in farming for about nine years; then learned the carpenter trade, at which he worked till 1862, building some of the first houses erected in Ashland, and assisting in the erection of the principal business blocks of the town. In Jacksonville, Ill., Feb. 20, 1855, he married Mary Virginia Job, born in Morgan County, Ill., Dec. 14, 1830, who has borne him four children, viz.: Charles F., Grace, Helen and Willie T. During the late war, Mr. Douglass enlisted in Co. D, 114th Ill. V. I., under Capt. Berry, the regiment being in command of Col. Judy, and served three years, and during that time participated in fourteen battles. Mr. Douglass retired from active life some time since, has been a member of the town board of Ashland, and school director for twelve years; he is a Republican, and was formerly a member of the I. O. O. F.

ALONZO S. FAY, Lawyer, Ashland, was born in Virginia, in October, 1853; son of Perry and Ellen (Rasenberger) Fay. Perry Fay, subject's father, was born in New York in 1814, came to Illinois in 1848, and taught school till 1854, when he started West, and has not since been heard of; his wife, born in the State of Virginia, in 1820, died at Princeton, Ill., in 1858, leaving two children, viz.: Alonzo S. and Luella (died in July, 1881.) Subject

followed farming for a time; then entered the Asbury Institute of Indiana, where after pursuing his studies in the classical course for six years, he graduated in June, 1879. He then entered the law office of Epler & Callon, in Jacksonville; and, after reading law there two years, was admitted to the Bar at Springfield, Ill., in November, 1881; then formed a partnership with Hon. J. M. Epler, and located at Ashland, where he is engaged in the practice of his profession. He is a Democrat, and a member of the I. O. O. F.

WATSON W. GAILEY, Physician, Ashland, was born near Newcastle, Pa., July 19, 1842, of Scotch parentage, and claims an ancestry running back to the House of Stuart; the grand maternal uncle of his mother, Elizabeth Stuart Macready, being none other than Charles Stuart, the Pretender; his father John Gailey, is a descendant of one of those gallant Highlanders who were banished from their native land, and took refuge in the North of Ireland. Our subject, after obtaining an ordinary education, attended medical lectures in Philadelphia. In 1862 he entered the medical service of the United States, and was assigned to duty in front of Richmond. After the close of the war, the Doctor traveled to some extent, but finally located in Morgan Co., Ill., at the little village of Prentice, which has so decreased since the rise of Ashland, that it is almost obliterated. He has a fine practice. April 13, 1865, he married Miss Luella E. Carson, daughter of John and Nancy Carson, who bore him two children, Ernest C., and Louis, both of whom are dead. Mrs. Watson also died July 19, 1868. In January, 1873, he married Miss Lizzie M. Sinclair, daughter of Samuel Sinclair (Virginia Sam). Four boys have blessed this last marriage: Byron, Darwin Spencer, Eugene Paul and Marsh Draper, the last named being now dead. In 1877 the Doctor built a fine residence at Ashland,

where he resides. He has a very extensive practice, and always keeps fully up to the front in advanced medical and surgical practice. He is a republican in politics and religion, meaning by the latter that he acknowledges the good in all churches.

LEWIS C. HEWITT, Farmer, P. O. Ashland, was born at Cape Newtown, New Jersey, May 22, 1849. At the age of 27 years he left home and began working as a farmer, locating in Cass Co., Ill., where he has since remained, engaged more or less extensively in farming. In 1877 he removed to his present place of residence, located three miles west of Ashland. His farm consists of 400 acres of choice rolling land, all under a high state of cultivation. He deals, to quite an extent, in stock of all kinds. He was married at Virginia, Cass Co., January 4, 1876, to Miss Alice Long, who was born in Cass Co., Oct. 25, 1858. She is the mother of three children, viz., Jessie, Allie, and Lewis. Mrs. Hewitt was a daughter of Jesse and Maria (Grisby) Long, both deceased. Thomas Hewitt, the father of Lewis, who was born in New Jersey, was one of the early settlers of Menard Co., and still follows the occupation of a farmer; he was born in 1823. His wife, Abigail Hand, also a native of New Jersey, died in, or about, 1858, aged about thirty-four years. She was the mother of four children, of whom Lewis was the eldest. Politically, he has always been identified with the Democratic party.

SAMUEL L. HAMILTON, grain dealer, Ashland, a son of Charles B. and Sarah Claphan (Lucket) Hamilton, was born in Loudoun County, Va., Dec. 17, 1835. Charles B. Hamilton, subject's father, a native of Virginia, a farmer and merchant, died in 1864, aged 56 years; his wife, also a native of Virginia, is still living, and is about 73 years of age; of their nine children our subject is the third. Samuel L., in 1870 engaged in the mercantile business

in Mason County, Ill., and after remaining there three years, removed his business to Ashland, his family accompanying him. In 1880, he sold out the mercantile business, and gave his attention to the grain and stock trade, but at present is engaged in grain dealing only. In May, 1870, he married Eleanor, daughter of Samuel Sinclair; she was born January 23, 1839, and died December 1, 1881, leaving five children, viz.: Charles S., Maud, Samuel S., Lloyd L. and Sarah E. Mr. Hamilton served three years and three months in the late war; he enlisted in Co. "F," 19th Ill. Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. Allerd, Col. Scott commanding the regiment. During his army service he received an injury which laid him up for nearly two years. He is a Republican, and a member of the I. O. O. F.

WILLIAM M. JONES was born in the State of Indiana, County of Tippecanoe, on July 31, 1826, and came within four miles of where Ashland now is, in the spring of 1847; has seen, where Ashland now stands, growing in wild prairie grass, and has seen it also in a farm, growing grain, and now sees it in a beautiful little town. Commenced the practice of law in 1857, was admitted to the bar as an attorney to practice law by the Supreme Court of the State, on October 20, 1871; came to the village of Ashland in the spring of 1870. Never studied law in attorney's office, except his own. Never was in college a day in his life; came here as soon as he was discharged from the Mexican war at Newport Barracks, Kentucky, and was mustered out at New Orleans. He also served in the late war for the suppression of the rebellion. He was a private in Co. D, 26th Ill. Infantry, and was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, and discharged at Springfield, Illinois. He was wounded in Mexico, and carried the bullet for thirty-six years, and then had it taken out, and yet he has received no pension, for he has never asked Uncle Sam for any help.

THOMAS B. LATOUCHE, merchant, Ashland, was born in St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 8, 1852. At an early age he was employed in assisting his father in the mercantile business, and afterward clerked in Mason County. In 1875 he went to Ashland, and clerked for S. L. Hamilton until the fall of 1880, when he purchased the business from Mr. Hamilton, where he has continued since. His trade, already large, has steadily increased, until now he has the satisfaction of conducting one of the largest business interests at Ashland. He was married in Mason County, May 30, 1875, to Miss Capitola Dengler, who was born in Bath, Mason County, June 17, 1859. She is the mother of three children, viz.: Arthur, Myrtle, and an infant. Mrs. LaTouche was a daughter of George and Catharine Dengler, natives of Pennsylvania, still living. The father of our subject, John LaTouche, was born in Canada, was a merchant, and died in the army in 1861, aged about 35 years. His wife, Emila McClintock, was a native of New York State, and is still living, aged about 40 years, wife of Bernard Donlin. By her first husband she gave birth to three children, of whom Thomas was the eldest child. He has held the offices in the village of Ashland, of Clerk, Treasurer, and President of the town board. Politically he is identified with the Democratic party.

FRANK LOHMANN, farmer and brick-maker, P. O. Ashland, was born Dec. 3, 1834, in Germany, of which country his parents, Frank and Elizabeth (Burns) Lohmann were natives. Mr. Lohmann, Sr., our subject's father, died of cholera, Nov. 1, 1850, aged about 62 years; his wife died in 1865, aged also about 62 years. Frank, the youngest of a family of five children, received an academic education in his native land, and assisted his father in the coal and salt business, and in running a boat. At the age of sixteen he began learning the bakery and brewing trade,

and in May, 1855, came to America and located at Wheeling, W. Va; in March, 1875, came to Ashland, and in 1876, started a brickyard, where he still carries on the brick-making business, and in addition is also engaged in farming. He had the misfortune to be burnt out once, with a loss of \$3,500, but has since erected several brick blocks at Ashland, and has done much to make the town what it is. At Dixon, Lee Co., Ills., he married Dina Pahl, a native of Germany, born May 27, 1836; died in 1869. His second wife, whom he married June 26, 1876, is Artificia D. Clark, a native of Menard Co., Ill., born in 1844. He has five children, viz.: Joseph B., Frank, Lewis, Sophia and Bertie. Mr. Lohmann is a member of the Town Board, and of the County Central Democratic Committee; while at Beardstown he held the office of Supervisor. He is a Democrat, and a member of the A. F. and A. M., and Knights of Honor.

GEORGE M. LEITCH, painter, Ashland; was born in Lenawa County, Mich., July 11, 1852. At 14 years he engaged to learn the trade of coach painter, at which he worked in various places many years. Went to New Orleans, and was one of the force that frescoed the St. Charles Opera House. Upon his return from the South he took a trip through Canada, frescoing churches, etc. Returning to the States, he eventually settled in Ashland, this county, where he has since remained, engaged in painting, graining and frescoing. He was married in Ashland July 24, 1877, to Miss Louisa A. Douglass, who was born to John L. and Ellen (Yates) Douglass, in 1860. She is the mother of two children, viz.: John W., born Oct. 10, 1881; Estella, Nov. 22, 1879. William M. Leitch, the father of our subject, was born in Huron County, Ohio, in 1816, a retired contractor and builder, living at Blissfield, Michigan. His wife, Emily S. Randall, born near Biddeford, Maine, in

about 1821, died Oct. 10, 1881. She was the mother of five children, of whom George, our subject was the third child. He has always taken more or less interest in the political issues of the times, and his sympathies are with the Democratic party. His father and one brother were in Company C, Fourth Michigan Cavalry, and one brother, Captain of Company K, Eleventh Infantry.

ALFRED E. MICK was born in Tippecanoe County, Ind., Dec. 22, 1837. His father, Daniel Mick, was born in Ross County, Ohio, and his mother in North Carolina. In an early day they left their native States, and located in Indiana, where they were married in the year 1836, locating on a farm in Tippecanoe County. His mother died in April, 1851, and his father in September, 1872. They had nine children, five boys and four girls. After a preparatory course of study at Shawnee Academy, he entered Wabash College at Crawfordsville, Indiana, and two years later attended Asbury University at Greencastle, Indiana. In 1859 he left his native State, and located in Petersburg, Menard County, Ill., and was elected county surveyor in 1864, and filled the position until 1869. During President Johnson's administration he was appointed postmaster at Petersburg. Mr. Mick was elected county clerk in November, 1869. During this time he was licensed to practice law by the Supreme Court of the State, following that profession until 1877, when he purchased the Petersburg *Democrat*. In 1881 he published the Petersburg *Republican*, continuing until January, 1882. In March of this year he established the *Sentinel*, which he is now publishing at Ashland, Illinois. On April 15, 1865, he was married to Mary E., the daughter of Milo and Elizabeth A. Wood; she was born in Morgan County, Ill., April 29, 1833. Milo Wood was a native of North Carolina, born May 23, 1795, and Elizabeth A. Wood was born in



Tennessee Jan. 11, 1797; they emigrated to Illinois in the year 1820. Mollie O., Leslie P. and Claude W., constitute the children of Mr. Miek's family, now living. He was raised under the influence of the Methodist Church, but as yet has not become identified with any religious denomination. Mary E., his wife, has been a member of the Presbyterian Church for more than thirty years. In his political convictions Mr. Miek has always been identified with the Democratic party. He is an Odd Fellow of fifteen years standing, and was one of the charter members that assisted in establishing Charity Encampment at Petersburg, Illinois, about ten years ago.

NELSON A. NEWMAN, grocer, Ashland; was born near Meredosia, Morgan Co., Ill., July 30, 1848. In addition to the common schools, he attended for a short time the Illinois College at Jacksonville, and Wabash College at Crawfordsville, Indiana. In 1871 he began dealing in stock in St. Louis; is now engaged in keeping a first-class grocery. He was married at St. Louis, June 23, 1880, to Miss Louisa J. Rogerson, who has borne one child, Mildred, born May 15, 1881. Mrs. Newman is a daughter of Thomas Rogerson, a native of England, now living at St. Louis. Jesse T. Newman, the father of Nelson, was born in Marietta, Ohio, in 1824; followed different occupations, but principally merchandising. His death occurred July 7, 1881. His wife, Esther Jane Gillham, was born in Scott County, Ill.; she is the mother of nine children, of whom Nelson was the oldest. Politically he is identified with the Republican party; his wife is connected with the Presbyterian Church. The father of our subject served as Lieutenant Colonel in the One Hundred and First Ill. Vol. Inf., organized at Jacksonville.

JOHN G. PEARN, teacher, Ashland; was born in Beardstown, Cass County, Oct.

3, 1855, son of William and Mary (Mutton) Pearn, both natives of England, he being a farmer, and dead, she still living; they had five children. Our subject was educated at Lincoln University and McKendree College. March 30, 1880, he was married to Miss Annie Cunningham, born in Lebanon, Illinois, in 1858, daughter of R. F. and Mary (Risley) Cunningham. Mr. Pearn has been teaching school six years. He is an Odd Fellow and a Republican.

WILLIAM W. REDMAN, Postmaster, Ashland; was born in Logan County, Ky. Aug. 16, 1820, and was brought to Morgan County, Ill., when five years of age. At the age of seventeen years he moved with his parents to Van Buren County, Iowa, where he assisted his father upon his farm until he reached the age of twenty-one years, at which time he began farming for himself, and remained in Iowa until 1851, when he went to California, where he remained about five years engaged in mining. He then returned to Jacksonville, Ill., where he remained three years. In 1860 he came to Ashland and engaged in the drug business, afterward spending three years upon a farm; in 1871 he was appointed deputy Postmaster, and in 1874 was made Postmaster, which office he still holds. He was married Oct. 7, 1845, to Miss Nancy J. Rueker, who was born in Kentucky, in 1825; she is the mother of five children: Rabanus, Carrie C., Lester L., Lua, and an infant not named, the two latter deceased. Mrs. Redman was a daughter of John Rueker, a native of Kentucky, deceased. Solomon Redman, the father of our subject, was born in Kentucky, in 1794; a farmer by occupation; his death occurred in 1849. His wife, Rebecca Williams, was also a native of Kentucky, born in 1800, died in 1870; she was the mother of nine children, of whom William was the oldest. Himself and wife are members of the M. E. Church. Politically he is a Republican.

REV. EDWIN B. RANDLE, clergyman, Ashland; was born in Madison Co., Ill., Dec. 15, 1852, to William S. and Sarah (Hansbarger) Randle; he was born in North Carolina, and was brought to Illinois by his parents when a child; a lawyer by profession, but conducts a farm also; now resides in Christian County. His wife, Sarah, is a native of Kentucky, and came to Illinois when she was about eighteen years old; she is still living, and is the mother of seven children, of whom our subject is the oldest. At the age of eighteen years, he began teaching, and continued in that occupation six years. In the fall of 1878, he joined the Methodist Conference at Jacksonville, having preached one and a half years previously. His first pastoral charge was at Irving, Montgomery County, where he remained two and a half years, and then removed to Harristown, Macon County, where he remained two years, and in the fall of 1881, came to Ashland, where he now has charge of the Ashland Circuit. He was married at Harristown, Ill., Aug. 25, 1881, to Miss Mary Stookey, who was born at Bloomington, Ill., in August, 1856, to Daniel and Caroline (Goodner) Stookey, natives of St. Clair Co., Ill., and both still living. Mr. Randle has been an active member of the I. O. O. F. for several years. He acts as correspondent for the *Christain Advocate*, the church paper of the denomination in whose interest he so zealously works, and his letters and contributions are able, interesting, and full of the love and grace of the Master, in whose footsteps he endeavors to tread.

JOHN L. REILEY, station agent, Ashland; only child of Alfred T. and Mary (Lee) Reiley, was born in Howard County, Ind., Dec. 28, 1861. Alfred T., the father of our subject, is a farmer, and was born in Rush County, Ind., in 1829; his wife, a native of Tipton County, Ind., died Dec. 31, 1861, aged twenty-two years. John L., after receiving

an ordinary education in Clay County, Ill., learned telegraphy in Isola, Ind., and, when a thoroughly proficient operator, took charge of the telegraph office at Farmingdale, Ill., where he remained thirteen months, then removed to Jeffersonville and stayed one and a-half years, after which he took charge of the station at Ashland, where he has since remained. At Jeffersonville, Ind., June 29, 1880, he married Flora B. Caddy, who was born in Allen County, Ohio, in September, 1862, who has borne him one child, Ethel, born Sept. 23, 1881. Mrs. Reiley is a daughter of Charles and Anna (Straley) Caddy. Mr. Reiley owns a good village property, consisting of a house and two lots; himself and wife are members of the Methodist Church; he is a Democrat.

GEORGE M. RANDALL, clerik, Ashland; was born in Vienna, Scott County, Ind., April 21, 1856. His father, George W. Randall, who followed the occupation of a farmer, was born in New Albany, Ind., in 1826, and died June 2, 1876. His mother, Mary J. Swope, who is still living, was born in Spencer County, Ky., in 1828; of her nine children, George M. is the fifth. He received a good education in the High School at Vienna, Ind., and having fitted himself for a teacher, taught school in Scott County, Ind., for some time; he afterwards taught in Cass County for six years. He has been engaged in his present business, clerking, in the employ of T. La Touche, for about three months. In Scott County, Ind., July 15, 1876, he married Jemima Whitson, a native of that county; born November 28, 1854, daughter of Lorenzo D. and Jemima (Collins) Whitson, both natives of Clark County, Ind., he, still living; she dead. From this union three children have been born, viz.: Linneaus, Olvia and Norman. Mr. Randall is a Republican.

SAMUEL SINCLAIR, deceased, son of John and Rachael Sinclair, was born in Ten-

nessee, July 17, 1808. After a residence of a few years in Kentucky, the family moved to Illinois, and finally settled on a farm some eight miles northeast of the city of Jacksonville, in a settlement yet known under the name of Hebron, where they located in 1835. Here the heads of the family died, the mother in 1844, and the father in 1850. They were both consistent members of the M. E. Church. When about 22 years old, he married Miss Melinda Bird, by whom he had one daughter, Mrs. Sally (John) Beggs. This wife died in 1837. Oct. 22, 1845, Mr. Sinclair was married to Mrs. Myra A. Williams, relict of Page A. Williams, and daughter of John and Elizabeth Rucker. Of this union there were born four children: Mrs. Elizabeth (Warner) Cowell, of Vernon Co., Mo.; Samuel W.; Mrs. Mary T. (Leni) Leatherton, and William O. Mrs. Sinclair raised three children by her first husband, viz.: John, Ellen and Newton. Mrs. Sinclair's parents were natives of Virginia. Mr. Sinclair, immediately after his second marriage, moved to Apple Hill, Cass County, where he remained about eight years, when he sold his farm and moved to Panther Grove, Cass Co., where he bought 800 acres of very fine land. He died May 8, 1868. He was a member of the M. E. Church. He had the reputation of being a good citizen—honest, upright, temperate, and patriotic, and a kind, indulgent, affectionate husband and father. He made a specialty of fine cattle and hogs. The Sinclair family are of Scotch descent. Mrs. Sinclair is a native of Kentucky. She is a member of the M. E. Church. She had seven brothers and sisters, raised to maturity, viz.: Presley, Eliza, Sedonia, Elizabeth, Sarah, Greenberry, and Nancy. The homestead farm is now managed by William O., who was born June 19, 1855. His education was completed in a high school, since which time he has been engaged in general agricultural business, and handling a large amount of stock.

He was married in Sangamon County, March 16, 1866, to Miss Eva Tomlin, daughter of Edward and Myra (Rucker) Tomlin, born July 20, 1855. They have one boy, Carl, born Jan. 31, 1877. Mrs. Sinclair is a consistent member of the M. E. Church. Politically Mr. Sinclair is a strong Republican.

SAMUEL SINCLAIR, farmer, P. O. Ashland; is a native of Loudoun County, Va., son of George Sinclair, a man of remarkable prudence and judgment, who brought up his family with great care. Our subject came to Morgan County June 8, 1833, an anniversary of his birth, and entered 280 acres of land with a portion of \$400, that he brought with him, afterward adding 40 acres more, making just one-half of a section. This land lies eight miles north-east of Jacksonville, near the little village of Sinclair, named in honor of our subject. After securing the land, he returned to Virginia, Loudoun County, and Oct. 28, 1834, married Miss Euphemia Craven, daughter of Josiah and Elizabeth (Shepherd) Craven, from which union there were born nine children: George, Ellen, Peter Akers, Virginia, Henry Clay, May and James, twins, Ruth and John. Mrs. Sinclair died April 23, 1861; she had been for many years a devout member of the Methodist Church, and a lady of many lovable qualities. October 21, 1863, Mr. Sinclair married Miss Dolly Beggs, daughter of Charles and Mary (Rudale) Beggs; and two children have blessed this second marriage: Emma Lou, and Maggie. The Sinclairs are of Scotch lineage, and trace their ancestry back to the famous Clan-Sinclair, confreres of the Douglass and other noted Highlanders. George died 1850. Mr. Sinclair is a Christian gentleman, and has been a strong Union man, having given three sons to the cause during the late war. He owns 887 acres of splendid land, which is under a high state of cultivation, and contains all the modern improvements in farm appliances.

WILLIAM SYBRANT, farmer; P. O. Ashland; was born Jan. 11, 1823, in Washington County, N. Y., of which county his parents, Samuel and Lydia (Robinson) Sybrant, were natives. Samuel, who followed the occupation of a farmer, died in 1859, aged seventy years; his wife is also deceased; they were the parents of seven children, our subject being the fifth. William, on attaining his majority, hired out as a farm hand, and, after having made some money, bought his first property in Crawford County, Pa. He came to this county in 1865, where he has since been engaged in farming; he owns 130 acres of land, on which he raises the usual grain crops. In Crawford County, Pa., in September, 1844, he married Sally Bassett, a native of Massachusetts, born June 25, 1823, daughter of Rufus and Mrs. (Colfax) Bassett, natives of Rhode Island (both deceased) and from this union one child has been born, viz.: Parmelia, wife of Joseph D. Turner. Mr. and Mrs. Sybrant are members of the Christian Church; he is a Democrat.

JOSEPH D. TURNER, farmer, Ashland; was born in England, Nov. 16, 1836; eldest child of a family of seven, of whom four are now living, born to John and Juliet (Dale) Turner, natives of England, and both

still living; he, a farmer, and also a mechanic, born in August, 1810, now residing in Henry County, Ills.; she, born in 1811. Joseph D., came to America with his parents, when he was but two years of age; attended school in Scott County, Ills., and came to Cass County, in 1856, where he has since resided, with the exception of the time he served in the army. At the age of 20 years he began learning the blacksmith trade, at which he worked twelve years. In this county, October 1, 1865, he married Pamela Sybrant, born in Pennsylvania, Aug. 5, 1845, daughter of William and Sarah (Bassett) Sybrant, both still living; he, a native of New York; she, of Vermont; from this union two children have been born, viz.: Ella Louisa and Mary Juliet. Mr. Turner, during the late war, enlisted in Co. K., 33d Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. C. E. Lippincott, the regiment being commanded by Col. Havey, and remained in service three years and two months. After leaving the army he engaged in farming, which occupation he has since pursued. He owns 156 acres of land on which he raises considerable stock, as well as the usual crops. Mr. Turner is an adherent of the Republican party. His wife is a member of the Christian Church.

## ARENZVILLE PRECINCT.

WILLIAM F. ARENZ, druggist, Arenzville; was born in Arenzville, Jan. 3, 1860; son of Peter and Mary L. (Baerholdt) Arenz; parents of two children; he, deceased; she, still living. (A full sketch of Peter Arenz, subject's father, will be found in the historical portion of this work.) The subject of this sketch received his primary education in Arenzville, afterward finishing at Jacksonville, Ill., and engaged in the drug business in Arenzville, where he has since followed that business. He is a Democrat.

PETER ARENZ, harness maker, Arenzville; was born in Arenzville, Oct. 5, 1862, and is a brother of William Arenz, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. His education was received chiefly in Arenzville; he also attended the Jacksonville Business College for some time. He began learning the harness maker's trade in Arenzville with Edward Heinz and has since followed that occupation there.

E. E. BEARD, farmer, P. O., Arenzville; was born in Augusta County, Va., Sept. 5, 1848, and is a son of John C. and Mary A. (Bates) Beard, natives of Virginia. John C. Beard, who was a farmer, died in March, 1881; his wife is still living; they had thirteen children. The subject of this sketch received his education in this precinct, where he began life as a farmer, and where he has since pursued that occupation. He married, in this county, Oct. 7, 1875, Julia Berry, a native of Jersey County, Ill., and daughter of David and Hannah Berry. Mr. and Mrs. Beard are the parents of three children: Clarence A., Grace, and John E. Mr. Beard is a member of Arenzville Lodge No. 481, I. O. O. F.; in politics he is a Democrat. His father came to this county twenty-seven years ago.

THE CRUM FAMILY.—JAMES CRUM, farmer, Arenzville Precinct. The father of our subject was Matthias Crum, a native of Virginia, and was born July 10, 1774. He lived in the old dominion State until mature in years, and then emigrated to Kentucky. While in this State, he taught school, and there married Miss Margaret Spangler, a native of Louisville; born Nov. 18, 1779. Her father, Daniel, was an early comer to that portion of the State, and was killed by the Indians, while attending to stock on his farm. Matthias Crum came from Kentucky to Morgan County, in 1832, and brought with him his wife and family of six children. He located in Morgan County, and there resided until his death, March 8, 1841, being then sixty-seven years of age. His wife survived him, and died April 24, 1852. His father also, Matthias Crum, was a native born German, a stone mason by trade. He crossed the ocean three times in his life; was a thorough workman, as many of the old stone chimneys erected by him in the old Dominion State, for the F. F. V's, are still standing, as a monument to his skill. James Crum, our subject, and his oldest brother, Christian, made their first visits to Cass County in the year 1830; another brother, David, also came with them, but he pushed on to Missouri, and there died. James and Christian located 320 acres of land in Section thirty-five, township seventeen, range eleven. This they owned and improved in common. Upon this tract they built a small log cabin, and occupied it until they were both married, and their interests became divided. James married Jan. 31, 1833, to Miss Christiana Ream, daughter of John Ream, a native of Pennsylvania, and

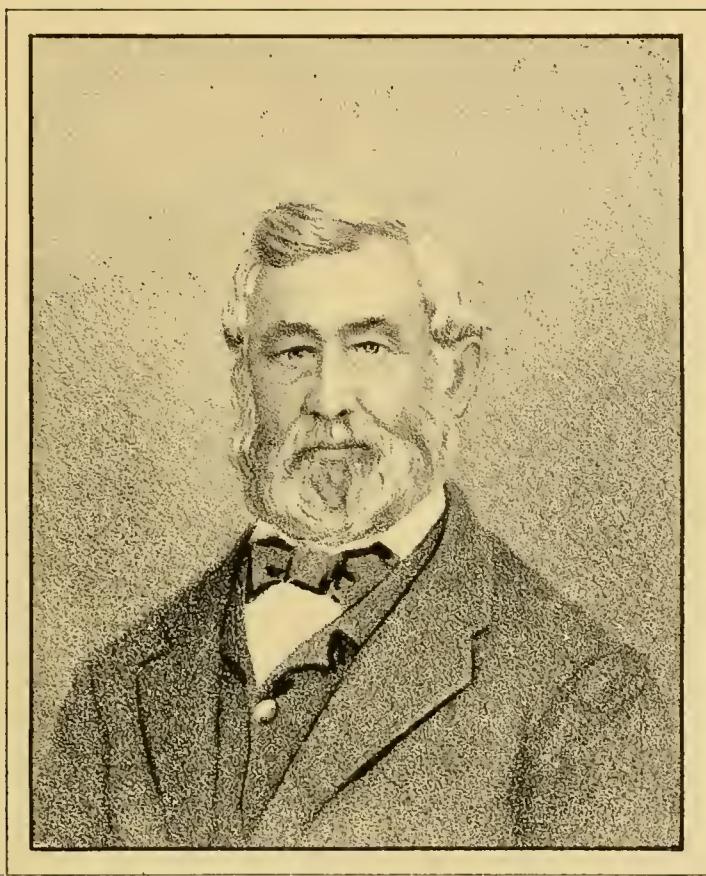
came to Ohio, thence to Illinois in 1830. He lived with his brother until he had completed his first log cabin in 1834, which he first occupied the winter of 1834-35. Mr. Crum was born Sept. 23, 1806. He commenced farming in an humble way on eighty acres of land. To this he steadily added, until he had at one time several hundred acres. Of this he has sold but little, but has settled it upon his sons and daughters, and now owns about 800 acres, which comprises the homestead. Mrs. Crum died May 1, 1878. Their children, born in the following order, are: David M. (deceased), T. Jefferson, James F., Sarah M., now Mrs. John F. Wilson, of Menard County, Mary E., or Mrs. William H. Thompson, of Jacksonville, Amanda C., now Mrs. W. H. Thompson, of Arenzville Precinct, John M., Marcellus, George W., Marcus L., Charles P., and Oscar (deceased). Mr. Crum cast his first vote for General Jackson, at Charlestown, Ind. He has always evinced a lively interest in the cause of education, and is awake to the public interests of his county and State.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, his oldest living son, was born July 9, 1835. He received such schooling as the early advantages of those times afforded, and grew up to assist his father at a most propitious time, when there was much to be done. He was reared to be a successful farmer. In 1853 he started in life for himself, with a worthy gift from his father of 250 acres of Cass County land. March 11, 1855, he married Miss Sarah A., daughter of William and Lucinda (Turner) Henderson. Mr. Henderson is a native of Indiana, and Mrs. Henderson of Kentucky. They came to Morgan County in 1830. Mrs. Crum, born May 7, 1840, and she has eight children living, as follows: Charles E., Marah T., Marion O., Willey S., Ollie E., May L., Henry O., Eben R. Two died in infancy without names.

MARCELLUS also received 250 acres from the old homestead, upon which he located. He was born Jan. 9, 1844, and is the sixth living child of his father. He attended the Wesleyan University at Bloomington; afterward took a commercial course in Chicago. Married, Oct. 19, 1870, to Mary E. Graff, daughter of Washington Graff, of Morgan County. They have four children: Alma C., Jessie F., Elton M., Reuel G.

DR. GEORGE W. CRUM, the seventh living child, was born on the homestead, Oct. 1, 1848. He attended school at the State Normal University, two and a half years, at Bloomington, in 1868, 1869, and a part of 1879. He then entered Adrian College, at Adrian, Mich., and in 1872 received the degree of A. M. He then returned to the Wesleyan College, and graduated as an A. B. In the meantime he spent two years in the study of medicine, at the St. Louis Medical College, and graduated in 1874, receiving his degree as M. D. The course of study he pursued may seem rather irregular, but it was taken as his choice, to avoid the discipline under one set of minds. Dr. Crum practiced medicine about four years, but is gradually abandoning practice, and has embraced farming, on account of failing health. He entered farming in 1869, when he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land adjoining the homestead. Aug. 21, 1878, he married Mary E. Malone, daughter of David Malone, of Evansville, Ind. Mrs. Crum is a graduate of the Jacksonville Athæneum, and was born April 10, 1856. They have two children: Cora A. and Olga I.

MARCUS L. CRUM was born Jan. 16, 1851, on the homestead. He received his education at the State Normal University, at Normal, Ill., and at the Wesleyan University, Bloomington, where he graduated in the class of 1874. He first took the degree of B. S., and since an honorary degree of M. S. has



*J. S. Aire'*





been conferred upon him. He, with the others, received 250 acres from the homestead property, as a present, and to that has been added, until he now owns about 560 acres, 160 acres having been presented to him by John Stubblefield, whose daughter, Miss Mary F., he married March 30, 1875. They have three children: Edith W., Arthur E., and Oral C. A full page portrait of our subject appears elsewhere in this volume (see index).

GEORGE A. CRUM, farmer; P. O., Arenzville; is a native of Arenzville Precinct, this county; born Oct. 29, 1855; son of Christian and Mary (Robertson) Crum, natives of Clarke County, Ind. Christian Crum, our subject's father, was a farmer by occupation; was born May 11, 1803, and died Dec. 30, 1881; his wife, born May 17, 1813, died March 9, 1882; they were the parents of eleven children, three deceased, our subject being the youngest child. His early education was received in the Union School House, Arenzville; at seventeen years of age he went to the Wesleyan College, Bloomington, Ill., where he studied for three years. He then devoted his attention to farming, and also engaged in the livery business. He was married in Beardstown, this county, July 5, 1881, to Lucy G. Morris; born in this county, Jan. 12, 1862; daughter of John C. and Nancy Morris. Mr. Crum is a Democrat, and a member of the I. O. O. F.

RICHARD J. CIRE, merchant, Arenzville; was born in Arenzville, July 20, 1852; son of John L. and Catherina (Hamm) Cire, natives of Prussia, and parents of nine children. He received his education in Arenzville, afterward taking a business course in the Jacksonville Business College, of which institution he is a graduate. He then clerked in his father's store in Arenzville for some time, and afterward devoted his attention to farming. For the past two years he has car-

ried on a general merchandising business in Arenzville, and has been postmaster there and still holds that office. He is at present, and has been for some time, Town Treasurer, and also Township Treasurer. In Arenzville, Feb. 25, 1877, he married Mary E. Bridgman, who was born in Concord, Morgan Co., Ill., Aug. 2, 1856; daughter of William F. and Elizabeth J. Bridgman. They have one child, Edna G., born Feb. 24, 1878. He is a Republican, and a member of Lodge No. 481, I. O. O. F., in Arenzville.

HERMAN ENGELBACH, deceased; was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, Dec. 22, 1829; only child of George and Matilda (Meyer) Engelbach, natives of Germany. Dr. George Engelbach, subject's father, was born Oct. 16, 1804, and died Jan. 16, 1845; his wife, born Dec. 19, 1807, died Nov. 16, 1831. The subject of this sketch received his education in Jacksonville, Ill., graduating from the Illinois College, in that place, in 1849. He then engaged as book-keeper in a wholesale hardware house in St. Louis, Mo. In 1852 he returned to Arenzville, and engaged in milling and mercantile business until his death, which occurred Dec. 16, 1880. He was married in this county, July 16, 1859, to Elizabeth Goebel, a native of Germany, who was born March 21, 1835. By this union they were blessed with seven children: George, Christina, Henry, Herman, Frederick, William and Marie; the latter born June 8, 1872, died April 31, 1873. Mrs. Engelbach is a daughter of John and Christina Goebel; he, born in 1811; she, in 1808. Mr. Engelbach was a member of the German Lutheran Church, and in politics a Republican. (A more extended sketch of our subject and his father, Dr. George Engelbach, will be found in the historical portion of this work, devoted to Arenzville Precinct.)

CHRISTIAN FRENCH, blacksmith, Arenzville; is a native of Bavaria, Germany,

born July 24, 1835, and son of John and Louisa (Wolf) French. John French was born in Germany in 1810; was by trade a locksmith, and died in 1846; his wife died in 1879; they were the parents of six children. Christian received his education in his native country, where he attended school for seven years, and in 1858, came to this country. He learned the blacksmith's trade, in Cleveland, Ohio, and has since worked at that occupation. In Beardstown, in 1861, he married Sarah E. Norton, a native of Wheeling, W. Va., who has borne him ten children: Mamie, Ollie, Edward, Ida, Harry, Walter, Leroy G., and three others, who died in infancy. Mr. French is connected with the Lutheran Church; is a member of Lodge No. 346, A. F. and A. M., at Concord, Ill., and of Beardstown Chapter; is also a member of Lodge No. 528, I. O. O. F., and Lodge No. 28, A. O. U. W., in Arenzville. He is a Republican.

WILLIAM J. GREEN, farmer, P. O., Arenzville; was born near the county line, between Cass and Morgan Counties, Ill., Jan. 8, 1844; son of William and Sarah C. (Long) Green; he, born in 1813, a farmer by occupation, still living in Morgan County, Ill.; she, died in 1855; parents of nine children. William J. received his education chiefly in Morgan county, where he began farming, but, since 1861, he has been a farmer in this county. During the late war, he served three years in the 101st Illinois Volunteers, under Col. Fox, of Jacksonville, Ill. In this county, Feb. 27, 1868, he married Theresa K. Cire; born in Arenzville, March 21, 1842, and from this union six children have been born: Richard J., Alice C., Lillian A., Amelia, Florence, and Charles. (For Mrs. Green's parents see sketch of her brother, Richard J. Cire, which appears elsewhere in this work.) Mr. Green is a supporter of the Democratic party.

EDWARD HEINZ, saloon and harness shop, Arenzville; was born in Gladenbach,

Germany, Feb. 23, 1827; son of Jacob and Louisa (Beyer) Heinz. Jacob Heinz, a native of Germany, followed the cooper's trade, and was traveling agent for a wholesale wine house in Frankfort, Germany; he also ran an oil and grist mill, and at one time owned an iron mine; he came here in 1839; his wife died in 1831; they had four children. Edward attended the Giessen University, in Germany, for about four years, and began life as a cooper in this town, afterward working on a farm for Dr. George Engelbach, then for Mr. Skinner, and then for Mr. Thompson. He served during the Mexican war as bugler, in Capt. Mear's Cavalry, 1st Ill. Reg., under command of Col. John J. Hardin. During the late war he served in the 14th Ill. Reg., under Col. John M. Palmer. He also served five years (from 1849 to 1854) in the regular army. Mr. Heinz has been twice married; first, Aug. 1, 1852, to Caroline Walt, who died, leaving four children: Amelia, Louisa, Albert and Charles. His present wife, Mary Doolin, whom he married in May, 1877, has borne him three children: Dolores, Leopold and Maggie. Mr. Heinz is a Democrat, and a member of Liberty Lodge No. 28, A. O. U. W., in Arenzville; his wives were both Catholics; he is a member of the German Lutheran Church.

JOHN F. HACKMAN, farmer; P. O., Arenzville; is a native of Hanover, Germany; born July 10, 1817; son of Aberhardt and Mary E. (Struve) Hackman; also natives of Hanover, Germany; he, a farmer, born in 1778, died in August, 1835; she, born in 1792, died in 1861; they had a family of five children. John F. attended school eight years in Germany, and came to this county (then Morgan County) July 21, 1835, where he has since been engaged in farming. In this precinct, June 24, 1841, he married Wilhelmina A. Myers; born in Hanover, Germany, in August, 1823; daughter of Gerhardt

H. and Elizabeth Myers, and from this union eleven children have been born: Eliza (deceased), Maria (deceased), John (deceased), Wilhelmina, Herman W., Sophia, Matilda, Edward, Sarah, Emma (deceased), and Henry. Mr. Hackman is a Republican, and a member of the M. E. Church.

WILLIAM HACKMAN, farmer; P. O., Arenzville; is a native of Hanover, Germany; born Sept. 13, 1820. He attended school for seven years and a half in his native country, and also for some time here. He came to this county in June, 1835, and has since resided here, engaged in farming. In this county, May 22, 1845, he married Elizabeth Meyer, a native of Germany; born March 22, 1826. They have had the following children: Louis C., Louisa, Lucinda, Matilda (deceased), and Edwin (deceased). Mr. Hackman is a member of the M. E. Church, and is a Democrat.

THOMAS JACKSON, farmer; P. O., Arenzville; was born in this county, July 10, 1840; son of James and Polly (Carter) Jackson; natives of Kentucky. James Jackson, who was a farmer by occupation, was born in 1810; his first wife, subject's mother, who died in 1853, bore him six children; his second wife bore him two children; he died in this county, in 1857. Mr. Jackson received his education in this county, also attended school in Bluff City, Scott Co., Ill., for some time, and began life as a farmer, which occupation he has since followed in this county, with the exception of five years, during which he farmed in Morgan and Scott Counties, Ill. During the late war he served for two years and ten months in Co. I, 115th Ill. Vols., under Col. J. H. Moore, of Decatur, Ill., participating in the battle of Chickamauga, and the last battle at Nashville. In this county, Jan. 10, 1867, he married Louisa Yeck; born in Meredosia, Morgan Co., Ill., May 22, 1845; daughter of John B. and

Catharine Yeck. From this union six children have been born: William E., Arthur M., Kittie A., Thomas H., Lulu G., and James G. Mr. Jackson is connected with the Christian Church, and is a Republican.

THEODORE LAUNER, farmer and stock dealer; P. O., Arenzville; was born in Beardstown, this county, May 2, 1842; son of Frederick and Lydia (Marty) Launer, natives of Switzerland. Frederick Launer, who was a clergyman of the Lutheran Church, and the first preacher in this county, was born in 1796 and died in the fall of 1870; his wife, who was born in 1830, died Jan. 4, 1876; they had seven children. Theodore received his education in this county, where he began farming on the homestead place. He afterward learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked for some time, but has since devoted his attention to farming and dealing in stock. He was married in this county to Louisa, daughter of August and Christiana Krohe, natives of Saxony. From this union seven children have been born: Louis (deceased), Edward (deceased), John (deceased), Oscar, Christiana, Amelia and Lena. Mr. Launer is a member of the Lutheran Church, and in politics is a Democrat.

W. L. McCARTY, druggist, Arenzville; was born in Ohio, March 5, 1848; son of G. A. and Lydia (Knopp) McCarty; natives of Ohio. G. A. McCarty, who is still living, a farmer by occupation, was born in 1818; his wife, also living, was born in 1821; they are the parents of thirteen children. Our subject attended the schools of this precinct, and afterward went to school for some time in Jacksonville, Ill., receiving a good education; he then engaged as clerk for Albert Felkner, of Arenzville, with whom he remained five years, then entered into partnership, in the general merchandising business, with G. Philippi, and after carrying on business together for two years, Mr. McCarty sold out to his part-

ner. He afterward clerked for some time in Meredosia, Morgan Co., Ill., and in 1880, began the drug business in Arenzville, where he has since remained, doing a good trade. In Arenzville, Sept. 16, 1875, he married Mary L. Arenz, a native of Germany; they have had three children: Lydia L., Walter and Lawrence. Mr. McCarty, is a member of Lodge No. 481, I. O. O. F., in Arenzville; in politics he is a Democrat.

POMPEIUS PHILIPPI, farmer, P. O., Beardstown; was born in Hamburg, Germany, Oct. 29, 1806; son of John A. and Louisa Philippi, also natives of Hamburg, Germany; he, a watchmaker and engineer, born in 1774, and died in March, 1831; she, born in 1780, died here in 1845; they had seven children. Pompeius received a good education, having attended school in his native country eleven years, and began life as a civil engineer, in his native city. He came here in the year 1834, and has since devoted his attention to farming. He was married near Hamburg, Germany, April 6, 1834, to Carlana L. Richelmann, who was born near that city, July 15, 1811; daughter of John C. and Louisa A. Richelmann, and from this union ten children have been born: Louisa, Anna, Bertha (deceased), Victor J., Amelia (deceased), Herman J., Charles A. (deceased), Bertha, Amelia, and Paul Pompeius. Mr. Philippi is a supporter of the Republican party.

EDWARD PFEIL, livery, Arenzville was born in Morgan County Ill., near Arenzville Nov. 23, 1859, and is a son of John C., and Amanda (Hamaker) Pfeil, both of whom are still living. John C. Pfeil is a native of Germany, and learned the tailor's trade, but, after coming to America, followed peddling for some time, then engaged in farming, which he has pursued for many years; his wife is a native of this county; they are the parents of nine children. Edward received his education in Morgan County, Ill.,

and engaged in farming there. In company with William S. Houston he carries on a livery stable, doing a good trade. Mr. Pfeil is a member of Concord Lodge, I. O. O. F., in Concord, Morgan County, Ill.; he is a Democrat.

JOHN RAHN, County Assessor and Treasurer, Arenzville; was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, about fourteen miles from Frankfort-on-the-Main, April 19, 1839, and is a son of John and Ann M. Rahn, who were parents of four children. His father, John Rahn, a native of Germany, and a farmer by occupation, still living; emigrated to America, and Oct. 12, 1854, located in Arenzville Precinct, on Sec. 32, town 17, range 11. Our subject received a good education, having attended school in Germany eight years, and, after coming here in October, 1854, attended the Arenzville schools, and also in Morgan County for some time. He began life as a farmer in this county, where he has since followed that occupation. During the late war he served two years in Company I, 115th Illinois Volunteers, under Col. Jesse Moore, of Decatur, Ill., and was discharged on account of disability. In Morgan County, Ill., Nov. 5, 1863, he married Susan Coffin, a native of that county; born Nov. 7, 1843; daughter of Charles and Olive Coffin. From this union six children have been born: Charles J., James M., George H., Lizzie, Hattie and Olive. Mr. Rahn is present County Assessor and Treasurer of this county, being elected to each office for a two years' term; has been for twelve years a member of the School Board, and was recently elected for another term of three years. He is a member of the Lutheran Church; is Recorder and Lodge Representative of Lodge No. 28, A. O. U. W., in Arenzville; he is a Democrat.

HENRY E. RAHN, grain dealer, Arenzville; was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany,

July 13, 1850. (For parents, see sketch of his brother, John Rahn, which appears elsewhere in this work.) Mr. Rahn attended school in this county, and also in Morgan County, Ill., for some time, and began the business of life as a farmer; afterward learned the blacksmith's trade in Arenzville, where he followed that trade for several years. He then learned the painter's trade at Galesburg, Ill., and since 1869 has followed that trade, at intervals. He is at present engaged in dealing in grain; he is a School Director, having been elected for a term of three years; he is a Democrat. In Arenzville, July 18, 1871, he married Lillian M. Wallich; born in Knoxville, Knox Co., Ill., March 22, 1851; daughter of Matthias and Elizabeth Wallich. By this union they have been blessed with five children: Frederick E., Wineford E., Ruel R., Elra A. and Ora E. Mr. Rahn is a member of Lodge No. 28, A. O. U. W., in Arenzville; his wife is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

THOMAS RICHARDS, farmer; P. O. Arenzville; is a native of Arenzville Precinct; born May 20, 1837; son of James H. and Delilah (Larence) Richards. James H. Richards, a farmer, was born in Botetourt County, Va., April 15, 1800, and died June 29, 1866; his wife was born in North Carolina, May 2, 1802, died Sept. 2, 1860; they had eleven children, of whom four are deceased, Thomas being the eighth child of the family. He received an ordinary education in this precinct, and has always been a farmer. In Morgan County, Ill., March 2, 1864, he married Martha A. Dinwiddie, a native of that county; born Nov. 7, 1844; daughter of Thomas and Vizilla Dinwiddie, natives of Kentucky; from this union have been born five children: Amie R., William T. U., Andrew F., James D. (deceased) and Clara B. Mr. Richards is a member of the A. O. U. W.; he is a Democrat.

ANDREW J. RICHARDS, farmer; P. O. Arenzville; was born in Arenzville Precinct, this county, April 20, 1835; son of James H. and Delilah (Larence) Richards. James H. Richards, who was a farmer by occupation, was born in the State of Virginia, April 15, 1800, and died June 29, 1866; his wife, who was a native of North Carolina, born May 2, 1802, died Sept. 2, 1860. Andrew J. is the seventh child of their family of eleven children, four of whom are deceased. He received his education in the schools of his native precinct, and began life as a farmer which occupation he has since followed. Mr. Richards is a Democrat; has been School Director; is a member of Arenzville Lodge, No. 481, I. O. O. F.; is also a member of the A. O. U. W.

CHARLES ROBERTSON, deceased; was born in New York State, June 26, 1810; son of Alexander and Elizabeth (McDonald) Robertson; natives of Scotland. His father, who was a farmer by occupation, was born about the year 1780, and died in Morgan County, Ill., in 1855. Mr. Robertson received but a limited education, and began life as a farmer, in Morgan County, Ill.; came to this county May 2, 1821, and died March 8, 1877. He married Bathsheba Drinkwater, who bore him ten children: Sarah E., Alexander, John T., Franklin C., Martha E., Cyrus D., Jacob N., Mary J., Charles and Daniel. Mr. Robertson was a member of the Old School Presbyterian Church, and was a supporter of the Republican party. His son, Alexander Robertson, was born in this county, Jan. 15, 1838; received his education in the Union School house in this county, where he has since been engaged in farming. During the late war he served three years in Company K, One Hundred and First Illinois Regiment, under Colonels Fox and La Sage. He is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and, in politics a Republican.

HENRY SCHAEFER, shoemaker; Arenzville; was born in Germany, Sept. 1, 1833, and is a son of Courad and Christina (Eiler) Schaefer, also natives of Germany. Courad Schaefer, a shoemaker and farmer, was born in 1807, and died in 1839, in Germany, where also his wife, who was born in 1810, died in 1865; they had two children. Our subject attended school in Germany for eight years; came to this country in 1850, and learned the shoemaker's trade in Maryland. In 1856 he came to Arenzville, where he has since pursued his trade. During the late war he was a member of Company G, Eighteenth Illinois Volunteers, under Colonel Webber. In Maryland, Feb. 23, 1854, he married Dora Reuschlein, a native of Germany; born April 2, 1837; daughter of Andrew and Margaret Reuschlein. By this union they have been blessed with twelve children: Frederick, born in Maryland, April 6, 1855; J. Henry, born June 8, 1857; George, Jan. 3, 1859; Anna, Jan. 17, 1861; William, May 5, 1863; Elizabeth, June 8, 1867, died in Arenzville Oct. 10, 1877; an infant (deceased); Mary, born Dec. 31, 1869; Edward, Feb. 22, 1871; Lula, June 8, 1873; Maggie, Sept. 23, 1875, and Charles Oct. 11, 1877. Mr. Schaefer is a member of the Lutheran Church, and is a Democrat.

DR. J. M. SWOPE, Arenzville; was born in Scott County, Ind., Dec. 13, 1854, and is a son of A. F. and Caroline T. (Sullivan) Swope; both are still living. A. F. Swope, a farmer by occupation, was born in Kentucky; his wife is a native of Indiana; they are the parents of seven children. The doctor received his primary education in Adams County, Ill., and, having chosen the medical profession, entered the Medical University of Louisville, Ky., of which institution he is a graduate. He began the practice of his profession in Scott County, Ill., and in the spring of 1880, moved to Arenzville, where he has since

been engaged in the duties of his profession meeting with good success, and having a large and steadily increasing practice. In Arenzville, Dec. 7, 1880, he married Mollie J. Yeck, who was born in Arenzville, Dec. 5, 1862. They have one child, Nina Grace. (For Mrs. Swope's parents, see sketch of her brother, Edward Yeck, which appears elsewhere in this work.) Dr. Swope is a member of Clayton Lodge, No. 147., A. F. and A. M., and of Arenzville Lodge, No. 481, I. O. O. F.; he is a Democrat.

ALFRED M. THOMPSON, farmer; P. O. Virginia; is a native of Arenzville Precinct, this county; was born Feb. 27, 1850; son of Oswell and Elizabeth (Henderson) Thompson; natives of Ohio; he, a farmer by occupation, died Sept. 28, 1864; she, living in Virginia, this county. Alfred M., who is the seventh child of a family of eight children, received his primary education in the Union School, in this precinct, finishing at the Normal School, McLean County, Ill. He has since followed the occupation of a farmer. He married in Virginia, this county, Sept. 10, 1872, Miranda L. Payne, a native of Cass County, Mo.; born July 25, 1854; daughter of William B. and Hannab E. Payne; her father was born in Kentucky, Aug. 24, 1824. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are the parents of four children: Nellie (deceased), William H., David U. and Edith P. Mr. Thompson is a Democrat; he is a member of the M. E. Church; has held the office of School Director.

FERDINAND WINHOLD, farmer; P. O., Beardstown; was born in Pennsylvania, Nov. 26, 1839, and is a son of William and Barbara (Weber) Winhold; natives of Hessen, Germany. William Winhold, a farmer by occupation, still living; was born Feb. 1, 1809; came to this country in 1835, landing at Baltimore, Md., Aug. 28, that year, and in 1841 came to this county; his wife, also living, was born in 1805; they are the parents of seven

children—two boys and five girls. Mr. Winhold received his education in this county where he has always followed farming. In this county in 1866, he married Bertha Philippi; born here Oct. 17, 1846; daughter of Pompeius Philippi, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. From this union nine children have been born: Rudolph F., Julius W., William P., Lena, Charles H., Eugene S., Paul, Bodo H., and Hugo B. Mr. Winhold has been School Director five years, and Road Supervisor one term, and at present holds the latter office; he is a Republican, and a member of the Union League.

EDWARD YECK, druggist, Arenzville; is a native of Arenzville, born Oct. 29, 1859, and son of Charles E. and Nancy J. (Beard) Yeck. Charles E. Yeck, who was a merchant, was born in Pennsylvania, and died Aug. 7, 1880; his wife, who is a native of Virginia, is still living; they had five children. The subject of this sketch received his education principally at Quincy, and also attended school for some time at Beardstown, this county. He began the business of life as a druggist and hardware merchant in Arenzville, where he has since carried on business, doing a good trade. He is a Democrat.

### INDIAN CREEK PRECINCT.

P. H. CORCORAN, farmer; P. O. Meredosia, Morgan County; was born in County Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1834; came to the United States at the age of fifteen years, and landed in Chicago about Dec. 1, 1849, where he worked three months for a railroad company, receiving fifteen cents per hour. From Chicago he came to Meredosia, Morgan County, where he worked for Thompson Bros., pork packers, three months; then hired to a farmer named John Dampey; worked for him three years, and lost \$360 of his wages by the failure of his employer. He went North in the fall of 1853, worked six months in the pineries of Wisconsin and Michigan; returned to Morgan County in 1854, and hired by the month at farm work for the next three years. In April, 1857, he married Miss Laurinah Graham, daughter of L. D. Graham, his employer; from this marriage seven children were born, three of whom are living, viz.: Martha E., married to Robert McAllister, of this county; Mary L. and George E. at home. He owns 350 acres in town seventeen, in this county, all with exception of twenty acres under good cultivation. He is a Democrat, and cast his first vote for James Buchanan. Thomas Corcoran, our subject's father, was born, and is still living in, County Kilkenny, Ireland, in advanced age; his wife died at the old home, in Ireland, in 1877. Mrs. Corcoran was born in Ross County, O., Aug. 15, 1828; her father, L. D. Graham, is a native of Ohio, and came to Morgan County, Ill., at an early day.

ISAAC DRINKWATER, deceased; was born Feb. 17, 1817, in Indiana, and when quite young, came to Cass County, Ill. In December, 1847, he was married to Miss Sarah Hardy, of North Carolina, born in Ber-

tie County, in December, 1822, and came to Cass County when ten years of age. This union resulted in four children, two of whom are living; they are Henry, born July 14, 1860, and Joseph, born July, 27, 1856; both are unmarried, and live with their mother. Mr. Drinkwater died March 12, 1873, and Mrs. Drinkwater now owns the farm, consisting of 280 acres, valued at \$5,500, where she has lived since 1847, she being the oldest settler of the precinct, with the exception of Mr. A. S. Wagner. Mrs. Drinkwater is a member of the Union Baptist Church.

J. F. HOLTSMANN, farmer; P. O. Meredosia, Morgan County. The subject of this sketch was born in Hanover, Germany, Nov. 14, 1841. At the age of twenty, he began learning the carpenter's trade, working at it three years. In the spring of 1864 he was married to Miss Johanna Steinsbimkt, of Hanover, Germany; born in 1844, died in this county in 1866. Our subject emigrated to the United States in company with his father's family in 1866; landed at New York city; thence by rail to Naples, Ill.; thence to Indian Creek Precinct, this county, and in 1870 bought the farm on which they are now living, consisting of 197 acres, of which 125 are under cultivation. In the fall of 1881, our subject married Miss Henrietta E. Sollman, who was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1862, and came to the United States with her parents in the fall of 1881. Mr. Holtmann is the second of a family of six children, all of whom, except the oldest, reside in Illinois. He has one child, by his first marriage, viz.; Julia H., born in Germany, in August, 1866. John Henry Holtmann, our subject's father, is a native of Hanover; born in 1815. At



the age of twenty he entered the regular army, and served twenty years. His wife, also a native of Hanover, was born in 1813. Both are living with our subject. Our subject and his father are both Republicans.

G. H. JOST, farmer; P. O., Meredosia, Morgan Co.; was born in Hanover, Germany, in February, 1817. When eighteen years old he enlisted as a soldier in the Infantry of the national army, and served five years, receiving his discharge in 1840. In 1845 he sold his farm and emigrated to the United States, coming by way of New Orleans to Beardstown in November, 1845. He settled on a farm of 120 acres, on Indian Creek, where he lived eleven years; then sold out, and bought a half section of land, where he now lives. He married a daughter of Henry Deackmeyer, of Hanover, Germany; she was born in 1823, and died in this county in 1877, having borne him ten children, six of whom are living, and five married. The following are the names of those living in order of birth: A. H., born in Germany, 1842; Louisa, born in this county in 1846; John, born 1849; Caroline, born 1852; Annie, born 1856; Harmon, born 1866. The average annual yield of Mr. Jost's farm in corn is 3,000 bushels; wheat 1,500 bushels; the farm is valued at \$12,000. He is a Republican and has filled several offices of trust in his precinct.

G. H. KREMS, farmer; P. O., Meredosia, Morgan County; was born in the kingdom of Hanover, Germany, Dec. 18, 1829. At the age of fifteen he came to the United States with his parents, landing at Beardstown, this county, on Jan. 18, 1845. In the spring of 1847 his father purchased a farm in Indian Creek Precinct. Our subject, when twenty-six years of age, was married to Miss Mary Schroeder, daughter of Fred. Schroeder, of Germany; she was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1834, and came to the United States with the family of Mr. Krems. From this union

five children were born, two of whom are living, viz: Frederick, born in 1857, and Mary, in 1859. His first wife having died in 1861, in the spring of 1863 Mr. Krems again married, this time to Mrs. Catharine Bloom, widow of Henry Bloom. She was a native of Prussia; born in 1822, and died at the present residence of Mr. Krems in February, 1874. From this union there were born three children, of whom two are living, viz: Lizzie, born April 6, 1864, and Hermon H., born Aug. 25, 1867. Mr. Krems owns 489 acres of land, 300 of which are under cultivation, and engages in farming and stock-raising; his estate is valued at \$15,000. He is a Republican, and a member of the Lutheran Church.

J. KNIPPENBERG, farmer; P. O. Meredosia, Morgan Co.; was born in 1837, in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, where he received a common school education. He came to the United States in the fall of 1860; landed at New York city, thence by rail to Beardstown, this county. He worked on a farm by the month for ten years. In 1870, he was married to Mrs. Mary Schroeder, widow of Henry Schroeder; she was born in Germany, in 1837; came to this country in 1846; from this union three children have been born, viz.: John H., born in September, 1869; John Ernst, born April 7, 1871; Harmon, born in 1874, died in September, 1876. By her first marriage Mrs. Knippenberg has three children: Annie M., married; W. H., and Emma. Mr. Knippenberg owns ninety acres of land valued at \$30 per acre. He is a Republican, and has served three terms as School Director of his district. A. J. Knippenberg, father of our subject, was a native of Hanover, Germany, where he spent his life, and died at a very advanced age.

CHARLES MAYES, farmer; P. O. Arenzville; was born in England, Nov. 5, 1836, and on attaining his majority, embarked for the United States in the fall of 1857,

and after a three months' voyage, landed in New Orleans, La. Thence he went to Meredosia, Morgan County, Ill., and remained in that county seven years, engaged in farming on a rented farm. In 1867 he purchased a tract of land in Indian Creek Precinct, this county, where he has since pursued farming. The farm consists of eighty acres of prairie and ten of timber land, and is valued at forty dollars per acre. He married March 9, 1859, Mary, daughter of William Sims, of Rutland, England, where she was born Nov. 23, 1838. By this union they have been blessed with seven children: Charles, born Sept. 2, 1859, died in infancy; Anna E., July 26, 1861; Eliza Jane, July 17, 1864; Richard William, Sept. 4, 1865, died Sept. 10, 1866; Charles William, Oct. 17, 1867, died March 27, 1869; George M., Dec. 16, 1869, and James F., June 25, 1877. In August, 1861, Mr. Mayes enlisted in Company I, One Hundred and Fifteenth Illinois Volunteers, and served until April, 1862, when he was discharged on account of injuries received at Louisville, Ky. Mr. and Mrs. Mayes are members of McKendree M. E. Church, which is situated one and a half miles southwest of their residence; he is a Democrat.

MRS. ELIZABETH STURMAR, farmer; P. O. Meredosia, Morgan Co.; widow of Kasper Sturmar, who was born in Germany in 1827. He served as a soldier in the German army, and in 1851 came to the United States; remained in Beardstown, this county, some time, and worked by the month on the farm of Mr. Skinner for three years. He married in 1856, Miss Elizabeth Kahlman (the subject of this sketch), who was born in Hanover, Germany, in March, 1824; was educated in her native land, and emigrated to the United States in 1855. They had no children of their own, but they raised and educated two

adopted children, viz.: Henry Schleter, born in Beardstown, this county, in April, 1870; and Samuel Kahlman, born in August, 1873, in Indian Creek Precinct, this county. Since the death of her husband, who died in March, 1871, Mrs. Sturmar has managed the farm, which consists of 200 acres, about half of which is under cultivation, the remainder being timber land. Mrs. Sturmar is a member of the Lutheran church.

A. S. WAGNER, farmer; P. O. Meredosia, Morgan Co.; was born in Greene County, Ill., March 22, 1825. His father moved from Greene County, and settled on the farm now owned by our subject, in Indian Creek Precinct; he was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1802; served as a soldier in the Black Hawk War, and afterward assisted in the survey of this county, acting as cook for the company, when it required great courage to guard their encampment against the prowling Indians. Our subject remained with his father till the time of his death, which occurred in 1862. In December, 1862, he was married to Miss Mary J. Houston, daughter of Nicholas Houston, of Arenzville Precinct; she was born in this county, March 10, 1831; they have had no children of their own, but have assisted in the rearing and educating of six children who were in need of homes. At the death of his father, Mr. Wagner bought the interest of William S. Wagner, joint heir to the homestead farm, and now controls the whole, consisting of 160 acres, 120 of which is under cultivation. Mr. Wagner is a Democrat. He had two brothers in the late war, one of whom died in the army; the other died in this county in 1868. Mrs. Wagner's father came to this county previous to the settlement of Beardstown, and lived here until his death, which occurred in 1872; he raised a family of thirteen children, six of whom are still living.

### PRINCETON PRECINCT.

ALBERT J. COONS, station agent, Little Indian, born in Morgan County, Ill., Feb. 14, 1852. Received a common school education principally in Sangamon County. At the age of twenty-two years left home and commenced railroading at Berlin, Ill. Oct. 2, 1876, he took charge of the station at Little Indian, since which time he has been in the employ of the Wabash R. R. He was married in Cass County Oct. 14, 1880, to Miss Laura, daughter of John and Nancy Epler. (See history.) She was born Sept. 18, 1858. George M. Coons, the father of Albert, was born at Lexington, Ky., Sept. 3, 1816. Came to Morgan County in 1825; is a farmer by occupation, and still living; his wife, Mary J. Sturges, was born near Arcadia Morgan County, Nov. 11, 1828, and died Sept. 28, 1861. She was the mother of ten children of whom Albert was the fifth child. He is highly esteemed in the community where he resides, and is considered a thorough business man. Politically he is a Republican.

REV. G. GARNER, Methodist Clergyman, Little Indian; was born in Clarke County, Ind., March 11, 1816. When 14 years of age he was removed by his parents to Cass County, Ill., near where he now resides. His educational privileges were not of the best, but he eventually fitted himself for the ministry. In 1841 he was licensed to preach, and spent the following four years as a local minister. He became attached to the Illinois Conference of Jacksonville, in 1847; his first charge was at Waterloo, Monroe County, where he remained one year. He preached in different localities until 1877, when he returned to this county, and has since had charge of the Zion M. E. Church. His term of thirty-five years in the Illinois

Conference has been one of continuous labor. At Hebron March 31, 1836, he was married to Miss Mary J. Rebman, who was born in Greene County Ill., Nov. 18, 1821. They are the parents of ten children, three of whom are deceased; those living are: Hannah E., wife of Rev. George B. Wolf, of Jacksonville, Ill.; Charles W., residing in Oregon Township, this county; Isaac C., in Ashland; Mary, wife of J. C. Bagby, of Chicago; Harriet E., wife of Ross Iler, of Pike County; George, living at home, and Minnie Lee, living in Chicago with her sister, Mrs. Bagby. Mrs. Garner is a daughter of James and Mary (Bowen) Rebman, natives of Kentucky, both of whom died of cholera in 1832. James Garner, the father of our subject, was a native of North Carolina; came to Illinois in about 1830, and was one of the early settlers of Cass County. He was formerly a minister, but after his arrival in Illinois, followed the occupation of farmer until the time of his death, which occurred in 1861. Elizabeth Robertson, his wife, was a native of Kentucky. She died in 1865, aged about sixty-nine years. She was the mother of nine children, of whom six are still living, and of whom Mr. Garner is the oldest now living. He was originally an old line Whig, but he is now a Republican. He was at one time a member of the I. O. O. F., and is now an active member of the order of A. F. & A. M., in which fraternity he has attained the Royal Arch Degree.

JOHN M. MONTGOMERY, farmer; P. O., Little Indian, was born in Lexington, Rockbridge County, Va., July 2, 1815; he is the oldest of a family of ten children. His educational privileges were limited to the common schools of Kentucky, where he lived

with his parents thirteen years previous to their removal to Illinois, which occurred in 1829. He still remains upon the homestead farm, which has been his home for fifty-two years; he has never made a specialty on his farm, but grows all the usual farm crops. Religiously he has been connected with the Presbyterian Church for a period of forty-seven years. Politically, he is a Republican, and socially, enjoys the highest esteem of the entire community. His father, Samuel Montgomery, was also a native of Virginia; born Oct. 1, 1791; was a cabinet maker by trade; he died July 25, 1861; Mary Bailey, his wife, was also born in Virginia, March 20, 1791, and died Feb. 5, 1839.

CHARLES W. PRICE, merchant, Little Indian; was born in Knox County, Ill., Oct. 12, 1845. At the age of twelve years he engaged as a farm hand, which occupation he followed four years, when he began clerking in a drug store. June 30, 1862, he enlisted in Co. E, 71st Ill. Vol. Inf., for the one hundred days' service; four months later, he re-enlisted in Co. A, 77th Ill. Vol. Inf., with Capt. G. G. Stearns, under command of Col. D. P. Grier; was mustered in as 2d Lieutenant, Sept. 15, 1864; served until Aug. 10, 1867, when he was mustered out as a captain. He was married at Versailles, Ill., April 18, 1872, to Miss Mary Hambaugh, who was born at Versailles, Dec. 27, 1843. They have one boy Frank; born Dec. 29, 1873. Mrs. Price is a niece of Gov. Ford, of Illinois, and a daughter of Stephen D. and Elmina (Stone) Hambaugh. He, born in Nelson County, Ky., Oct. 23, 1802; came west in 1825, and engaged in farming; was a member of the Legislature in 1842. His death occurred Nov. 3, 1877. His wife, Elmina, was born in Franklin County, Vt., July 2, 1813, and is still living. James Price, the father of Charles, was born in Scott County, Ky., April 2, 1818; came West when twelve years of age, and is now engaged in

harness making at Toulon, Ill. Lucy C. Hamlin, his wife, was born in Addison County, Vt., April 5, 1822, and is still living. She is the mother of six boys, of whom Charles is the second child. He came to Cass County Nov. 1, 1878, since which time he has been engaged in general merchandising at Little Indian; was appointed Postmaster, soon after, which office he still holds. He is a member of the fraternity of A. F. & A. M., and politically is a Democrat.

WILLIAM STEVENSON, farmer, stock-breeder and dealer; P. O., Little Indian; is a descendant of good old Virginia-Kentucky stock, and a son of James and Mary (Elliott) Stevenson, both natives of Virginia; the former born about the year 1777, and emigrated with his parents to Kentucky in an early day, when that country was, indeed and in truth, the "dark and bloody ground," and the home of numerous tribes of hostile savages. It was then the custom, after rising in the morning, before opening the door, to take a close observation of the surroundings of the cabin, from some convenient loop-hole made for the purpose, in order to discover any prowling Indian that might be lurking around. Upon their emigration to Kentucky, the Stevenson family settled in what is now Scott County, one of the most beautiful spots of the famous blue grass region, where they remained until the removal of James Stevenson to Illinois, in 1829. He settled in that part of Morgan County now included in Cass, where he bought 160 acres of land, and entered enough to make a section. He followed farming, and died in 1851, at the age of 74 years; his wife died in July, 1829, a short time before the family moved to Illinois, and sleeps in the little graveyard, near the old Kentucky home. They raised a family of nine children—five sons and four daughters. Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson were both members of the Presbyterian Church. William, our subject, was born in

Scott County, Ky., Dec. 25, 1813, and came with his parents to Illinois in 1829. He now lives upon the land entered by his father, and owns a fine farm, highly improved and well cultivated, of about 560 acres, lying on the P. P. & J. Railroad, a short distance south of Virginia, the county seat of Cass. Mr. Stevenson makes a specialty of rearing fine stock, consisting of Short Horn cattle, Cotswold and Southdown sheep, and Berkshire hogs. His herd of Short Horns are, perhaps, unsurpassed by any herd ever reared in the far famed blue grass region—a region that is known the world over for its fine stock. But a full and complete sketch of the herd of Mr. Stevenson will be found in the chapter devoted to the agriculture of the county, in another part of this volume. Mr. Stevenson has never been an aspirant for office, but has given his time principally to the improvement of his farm, and the care and breeding of fine stock. He took an active part in getting the railroad, and since its completion has been

its agent at the station near his residence. He was married Feb. 11, 1836, to Frances Berry, a daughter of William S. and Rachel (Row) Berry, natives of Virginia; the former born in Stafford County, and the latter in Orange County. They emigrated to Cass County (then Morgan) in 1833; he died at an advanced age, and she died at the age of seventy-two years. Mrs. Stevenson was born June 4, 1812, in Orange County, Va., before her parents moved to Illinois. She and Mr. Stevenson have had seven children born to them, of whom four are living, viz.: Robert, Cornelia (wife of John Bergen), Joseph and Charles; and deceased, Mary, Thomas, and Rachel Ann, wife of William Martin. Mrs. Stevenson is a member of the Presbyterian Church; Mr. Stevenson is a liberal supporter of the Church, but not a member of any denomination. He was an old Whig in politics, and since the organization of the Republican party, has cast his vote for its standard bearers.

**RICHMOND PRECINCT.**

LEVI DICK, farmer; P. O., Chandlerville; was born in Kentucky, Feb. 17, 1815, and is a son of Peter and Christiana (Shutt) Dick. Mr. Peter Dick was born in North Carolina, and emigrated to Sangamon County, Ill., with his family, as early as 1829, and in the following year settled in Cass County, upon the dreaded bottoms of the Sangamon; for in an early day the bottom lands were considered the most sickly, pestilential, and ague-shaking of all the country in this section of the State. The subject of our sketch remained with his parents until he was twenty-three years of age; for he was a dutiful and obedient son, and did not desert his home and parents for two years after he arrived at his majority; he then left home to engage in business for himself, for he always cherished an inborn desire to do and to make for himself that which might be called his own, and by a rigid system of economy and untiring industry, he accumulated a handsome property, and has an enviable reputation as a farmer and a man of business integrity. He now has a comfortable home and a finely improved farm of 380 acres. In 1839 he married Miss Emmatere Leeper, who was born in 1815, and died in 1853, leaving three children as the result of their union, viz.: Amos, Robert and Martha. In 1854 he was a second time married, to Ann Morgan, a native of Cass County, and born in 1830; she is the mother of two children, Cordelia and George. Mr. Dick, politically, holds to the principles of the Democratic party. He has never aspired to official promotions, believing it to be more becoming and consistent to attend to the duties of his farm and family, than to enter the political ring and clamor for office.

Mr. Dick has made many friends, and is widely known as, morally and socially, an estimable man.

THEODORE FRANKENFIELD, farmer; P. O., Chandlerville; was born in Germany Dec. 20, 1830, to Franklin and Hannah (Mullen) Frankenfield. They were both natives of Germany. He died in 1833, aged sixty-seven years. She died in 1871, aged seventy-nine years. They were the parents of five children, four boys and one girl, Theodore, our subject, being the third child. His early life was spent in receiving a common school education. When quite young was apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade, and followed the same until he was twenty-four years old, when he entered the army and served four years. In 1858 he left home and emigrated to America, landing in New York. The first four years of his life in America was spent in the West, roaming from place to place. In 1862 he came to Cass County, where he was employed as a farm hand, but soon after began farming on his own account; he is now the owner of 300 acres of well improved land. In Cass County, in 1859, he married Miss Susan K., daughter of Joshua Morris (deceased). She was born in Cass County, in 1859. Mr. and Mrs. Frankenfield are the parents of five children: Joshua, Willie, Matilda, Frank and Henry. He and his wife are connected with the Methodist church. Politically, his sympathies are with the Democratic party.

HAMILTON HALL, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; was born in East Tennessee, Nov. 23, 1823, to Squire and Lair (Lane) Hall. He was born in Wilkes County, N. C. March 6, 1791. He brought his family to Illinois in 1828, and settled in Menard County, and

moved to Cass County in 1844. He was a farmer; he died June 11, 1871. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. He was a son of Martin Hall, a native of North Carolina, of French and Irish descent. The great-grandfather of our subject was transported to America for taking three cherries. The mother of our subject was born in East Tennessee, Dec. 9, 1779, and died Aug. 19, 1861. She was the mother of eight children, of whom our subject was the fourth child. He was educated from the common schools of Menard County. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-seven years old, assisting his father at farming. At the age of twenty-seven he began farming on his own account, on forty acres of land. He is the owner of 167 1-6 acres of good land now; he met with good success. He commenced life poor and made all he has got. In Nov. 3, 1870, in Cass County, he married Parthenia E. Kee, who has borne him nine children, six living, viz.: George, Caroline, Jefferson D., Benjamin, Robert Lee, and Samuel. Politically, he is a Greenbacker; formerly a Democrat.

WILLIAM LYNN, deceased, was one of the oldest settlers of Cass County, and one who lived to see it come up from a wilderness state to its present condition of advanced civilization and whose portrait appears in this work, was born Nov. 17, 1800, in the northern part of Pennsylvania. He was the second son of William and Elizabeth (Laird) Lynn. His father was a Pennsylvania German, a miller by trade, also owning a farm. He served his country in the war of 1812 as one of the "minute men," and was present at the celebrated victory of Commodore Perry, on Lake Erie. At the close of the war he removed with his family to Fleming County, Ky., afterward to Nicholas County, where he remained until his death. Wm. Lynn left home at the age of fourteen, and was apprenticed to a millwright, serving four

years and seven months. He followed his trade and milling for about twenty years, working in Kentucky, Ohio, and Illinois. In 1825 he came to Richland, Sangamon County, Ill., and built a flour and grist mill, and run it for four years for the Broadwell Bros. In the spring of 1830, memorable as the year of the "deep snow," he came to the Sangamon Bottom, and entered 160 acres of land five miles northeast of the present site of Chandlerville. This was the second piece of land entered in this valley. In 1831 he moved on the land and began improvements. He remained eighteen months, and then returned to Richland, and run the mill four years longer. It was claimed that the first barrel of superfine flour ever sold in the city of Springfield was made by Mr. Lynn in this mill. In 1837 he returned to the farm, and quit the milling business for life. In 1846 he sold his first land, and purchased land further up the valley, where he remained to his death, which occurred Oct. 24, 1875. He first introduced the short horned Durham cattle into this part of the country, greatly improving the stock of the community. At his death he was the owner of about 1,000 acres of land. His marriage occurred on the 12th of June, 1823, to Miss Sarah Huse, in Brown County, Ohio. She was the mother of nine children. She was born in Brown County, Ohio, Aug. 18, 1806, and died March 28, 1877. For more than forty years these old veterans served as faithful soldiers of the cross in the Methodist Church. A consistent walk, and a faithful training in the fear of God, has not been without its fruit in the lives of their children. Two daughters and one son are members of the Baptist Church, and two sons are Methodists.

JOHN A. LYNN, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; is a native of Sangamon County, Ill. He was born June 16, 1828. The early life of John A. was spent in receiving such an education as the common schools of Cass

County afforded in his day. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-one years old, and then began work for himself by farming on his own account. In Cass County, on Dec. 19, 1850, he married Miss Eliza Hickey, who bore him the following children: Matilda, Charles, Martha, James, and Frank. His wife was born in Cass County, on Nov. 28, 1834, and died June 25, 1868. In 1869, he was married to Cynthia E. Williams. Of this union three children are now living, viz.: Ida, Claude E., and Harry. Mrs. Linn is a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Linn is the owner of 524 acres of well improved land, and is an honest, upright citizen.

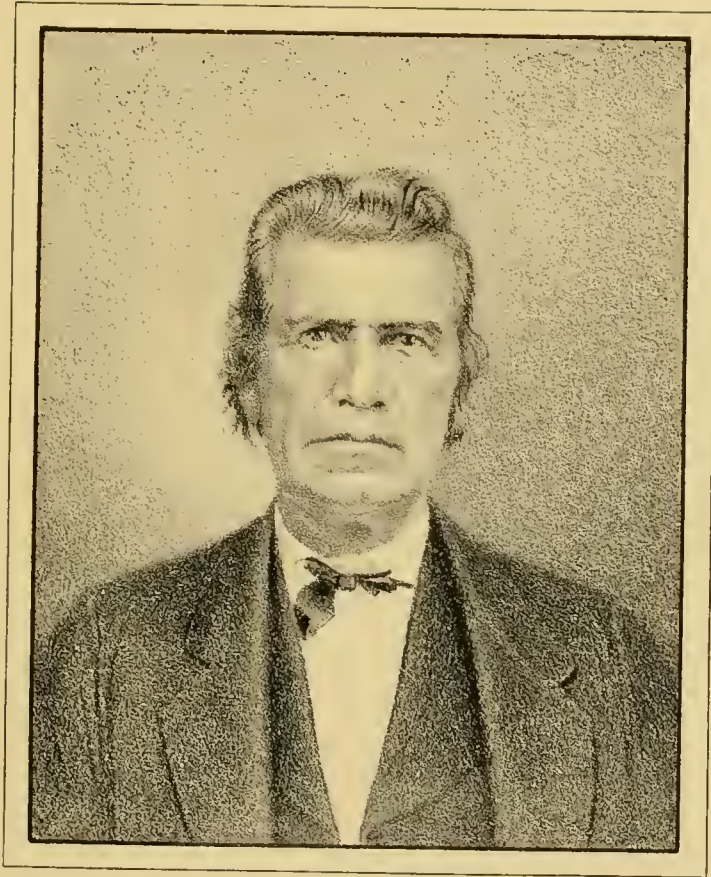
T. T. LYNN, farmer; P. O., Chandler-ville; was born in Sangamon County, Dec. 15, 1830. He was educated in the common schools of Cass County. His early life was spent at home upon the home farm; when he was twenty-two years old he left home and began farming on his own account. Dec. 16, 1852, in Cass County, he married Miss Letitia Hickey, a native of Menard County; born April 7, 1832. Mr. Lynn and wife are the parents of the following children: John C., Letitia, Sarah A., James W., Timothy T., jr., Mary B., Joseph C., and Francis L., who died Sept. 18, 1862. Mr. Lynn, politically, holds to the principles of the Republican party. He has never aspired to official promotion, believing it more becoming and more consistent to attend to the duties of his farm and family than to enter the political ring and clamor for office. He commenced life with no capital, but a strong body and a willing mind. He is now the proprietor of over 800 acres of the best land of Cass County. Of pleasant, affable address, liberal in his views, genial and gentlemanly in his social relations, high-minded and public-spirited, Mr. Lynn wields a large influence in the community in which he lives, and deserves a place high on the roll of the substantial men of Cass County.

WILLIAM P. LYNN was born in Sangamon County, Ill., Feb. 17, 1835, to William and Sarah Lynn. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-two years old, attending the common schools of Cass County, and assisting in tilling the soil of his father's farm. At the age of twenty-two years, he left home, and commenced farming on his own account, upon a farm he rented of his father, who left him at his death, ninety-three acres of land. He has added to this, until he is now the owner of 166 acres. On Feb. 25, 1858, he married, in Cass County, Nancy Clark, a native of Ross County, Ohio. She died on Feb. 3, 1879, leaving four children, viz.: William, Curtis, Olletha, Robert, and Perry. On April 25, 1882, he married Maria Worthington, a native of Ohio, near Chillicothe. He is an active member of the A. F. & A. M., at Chandler-ville. Politically, he is a Republican.

JAMES S. LYNN, farmer; P. O., Mason City; was born in Cass County, Sept 18, 1839. He received his education from the common schools of Cass County. His early life was spent at home, helping his father till the farm. He remained at home until 1862, when he enlisted in Company E. 85th Illinois, under command of Captain Scott; was in battle of Perryville, Boyle County, Ky.; was shot through left hip. In 1861, in Cass County, he married Anna M. Trumbull, who died in 1862. In August, 1865, he married Mrs. Matilda J. Turner, who has borne him eight children, five living, viz.: Ada J., Addison J., Ella M., Emerson, Leonard. He carried on farming in Cass County until 1871, when he removed to Mason County, where he is still engaged in farming. He is now the owner of about 300 acres of land. Self and wife are members of the Baptist Church; he is also a member of the Order of Knights of Honor, and the Grand Army of the Republic.

NATHAN SUTTON, farmer; P. O.,





*William Lynn*



Chandlerville; son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Robe) Sutton; was born Jan. 22, 1819, in the State of New Jersey. When four years old his parents emigrated to Michigan, and settled within five miles of where the city of Ann Arbor now stands. Here the family resided some ten years, and then emigrated to Cass County, Ill. They located on Pecan Bottom, about six miles above the present neat and flourishing town of Chandlerville. Here the parents died—Mrs. Sutton about 1837, and her husband about 1839. They were exemplary Christians, and repose in hope of better resurrection. They left behind them a family of six children: Sylvester, Nathan, Nelson, George, Mrs. Sarah A. (Isaac) White, and Mrs. Eliza (Charles) Corey. Mr. Sutton, probably has had as varied an experience as any man of his age resident of the county. Born in the cultivated society of the East, he was taken into a new State when quite young, spent some ten years among the Indians, where white men were so seldom seen that he was actually afraid of them when he chanced to meet them. Cass County was but sparsely settled when he first came into it. Aug. 4, 1842, Mr. Sutton married Miss Elizabeth Ann, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth (Merrill) Mamar, formerly of the State of Maryland. This union has been blessed with the following children: William S., Alonzo, John H., David L., Winfield S., Mrs. Clara (Joshua) Conger, Benjamin R., Charry E. Personally, it is not necessary to say one word of Mr. S. and lady, as they are well known in their part of the county as being among the best of our citizens. They are both members in good standing in the Baptist Church, he being a deacon among this people.

HENRY TAYLOR, farmer. Among the names of the old settlers of Cass County, none is more deserving of passing into history than that of Henry B. Taylor, de-

ceased, the father of our subject, and the son of John and Barbara (Beason) Taylor. He was born January 24, 1814, near the city of Nashville, Tenn., and when he was about sixteen years old, he came with his father and family to Pecan Bottom, Cass Co., Ill., and settled with them about six miles above the city of Chandlerville, where he continued to reside until removed by death, Feb. 5, 1864. His parents were natives of North Carolina, and were both members of the regular Baptist Church. They raised five children: Robert, Mrs. Nancy (William) McCauley, Mrs. Rebecca (William) Morgan, Mrs. Matilda (James) Samuels, and Henry B., who married Mary P., daughter of John and Catharine (Graves) Hawthorne. This union was blessed with the following children, all living: Mrs. Mary E. (Charles) Anderson, Mrs. Mary C. (Peter) Rickard, Mrs. Barbara M. J. (William) Weaver, John, and Henry, our subject. Henry Taylor was born in Cass County, Aug. 17, 1852. His early life was spent at home on the homestead farm, and receiving such an education as the common schools afforded. Arriving at manhood, he embarked on his career as a farmer, and is at the present time the owner of one hundred and fourteen acres of good land. He was married Dec. 27, 1870, to Miss Matilda Linn. Mrs. Taylor was born in Cass County, Nov. 2, 1852. They are the parents of five children: Jennie B., John R., Hattie E., Lulu and Jesse. The Taylor family is of English descent, and came to this country before its independence from the mother country; and the ancestry living at the time, were patriots in the cause of freedom, and some of them served as soldiers in the Revolutionary War. Robert, the great-grandfather, was alive at this time; his sons, Daniel, William, and Henry, did service for their country in the Continental Army. Mr. Taylor's great-grandfather, who was also named Robert, raised the following children:

Herron, Manoah, Robert, Benjamin, John, Mrs. Betsey (Leonard) Dugger, Mrs. Lucy (Whitehead) Janner, Mrs. Keziah (Jesse) Skehan, Mrs. Nancy (David) Bradley, and Polly, who first married William West, and afterward Joseph McGlothling. John, Mr. Taylor's grandfather, was born Sept. 13, 1782, and died in Pecan Bottom, Sept. 3, 1842. His wife, and grandmother of our subject, was born March 7, 1788, and died in Mason County, June 13, 1871. Mr. Taylor's father was baptized into the fellowship of the Baptist Church by Elder M. Hartley, in the spring of 1859, and continued his membership in the Mount Olive Church, which he was largely instrument-

al in building up, till his death. He was an active member, and rose to the office of deacon, which position he held at the time of his death. For a number of years he held the office of Justice of the Peace, and his judgments were always characterized with equity and legal precision, and seldom failed to give satisfaction, and always were sustained in the higher courts. Though his chances of education were very unfavorable, still, by his own exertion, he attained more than a common education. He delighted especially in the study of astronomy, and in the reading of the "old family Bible," the precepts of which were beautifully illustrated in his private life.

**PHILADELPHIA PRECINCT.**

**JOHN L. BUCKLEY**, retired farmer; P. O. Philadelphia; was born in England, Jan. 14, 1812. In 1837 he emigrated to America, and located in Cass County, and followed the occupation of a carpenter. About 1849 he went to California, where he remained about three years. After his return from California he commenced farming, which he carried on, more or less extensively, until 1869, when he sold his property and retired from active labor. At this date he is hale and hearty, and bids fair to live still many years. He was married in Cass County, June 2, 1844, to Miss Mary A. Lindsley, who was born in Ontario County, N. Y., Sept. 24, 1815. Martin L. Lindsley, the father of Mrs. Buckley, was educated for a physician, and was of a very roving disposition. He was killed in 1830, while digging a well. His wife, Orilla Bordman, was born in Vermont in Rutland, Co., Aug. 31, 1788; died May 1, 1877. She was the mother of eight children. Mrs. Buckley's parents were both well educated, and taught school at one time. John Buckley, the father of our subject, was a native of England, a merchant by occupation. His wife, Elizabeth Lees, was also of England; she was the mother of ten children, of whom John L., our subject, was the sixth child. Politically, Mr. Buckley was originally an old line Whig, but since its day has been identified with the Republican party. Religiously, himself and wife are connected with the Christian Church.

**MARK BUCKLEY**, farmer; P. O. Virginia; is a native of Lancashire, England; was born May 15, 1815, son of J. L. Buckley (see history). In 1837, our subject came to America, located in this county, and soon after, in company with his brother, opened a cabinet shop

at Virginia. In 1848, he removed to his present place of residence, and has since been engaged more or less extensively in farming. He erected a fine farm residence in 1869, and has the place in first-class order. At present he has retired from active labor, his son now having charge of the farm. He married in this county, March 26, 1850, Cornelia Job, a native of this county, born Dec. 30, 1823, who has borne him five children, viz.: Elizabeth, wife of Charles Black, of Virginia, Alice, wife of H. Turner, also of Virginia, Archibald J., Franklin, and Adeline, at home. Mrs. Buckley is a daughter of Hon. A. and Jane Job. He came from Pittsburg, Pa., to Beardstown, by boat, in 1820. He was the first representative in the Legislature from Morgan County, which at that time included what is now Cass, Morgan and Scott Counties. Mr. Buckley is a member of the Christian Church; he is a Republican.

**ABRAHAM BAILEY**, Philadelphia; was born in Virginia, April 13, 1825; son of Robert and Charlotte (Snyder) Bailey, natives of Virginia; he, a farmer by occupation, died in 1847, aged about forty-nine years; she died in 1881, aged about eighty years. Subject, the eldest of a family of ten children, received a common school education, and began the business of life as a farmer. In 1857 he came to Illinois, and settled in this county, where he has since been engaged in farming, and where he now owns a farm of 150 acres of choice farming land. In Virginia, Oct. 1, 1849, he married Sarah, daughter of Joel and Mildred Snyder, and a native of that State; born Aug. 10, 1830, who has borne him ten children, of whom eight are living, viz.: Mary, wife of Charles L. Bailey, Martha, wife of

Wm. S. Little, now in California, David, a farmer, Fanny, Ada and Charles, at home, George and Frank. Mr. Bailey is now serving his third term as Justice of the Peace; is also a Township Trustee; he is a Democrat, and a member of the Christian Church.

WILLIAM BARKLEY, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born in Portage County, Ohio, April 14, 1846; youngest of a family of five children, born to Christopher and Christina (Waukmiller) Barkley, natives of Germany; he born in 1806, now a retired farmer, living in Missouri; she died in 1848. William, at the age of ten years, was taken by his father to Missouri, where he received an ordinary education; left home, and for a time followed freighting on the plains near Salt Lake. In 1864, he came to this county, where he has since lived, engaged in farming, and the handling and raising of stock of all kinds. In this county, Aug. 7, 1871, he married Nancy McDonald; born in this county Aug. 27, 1849; daughter of John T. and Mary A. (Thomas) McDonald; he, born July 2, 1812, died in 1866; she died Oct. 28, 1850. From this marriage one child was born, on Aug. 18, 1880. Mr. Barkley is a Democrat, and a member of the A. F. & A. M. and A. O. U. W.

JAMES CUNNINGHAM, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born May 10, 1825, in Scotland, of which country his parents John and Ellen (Taylor) Cunningham were natives. John, a millwright and farmer, died in 1838, aged about 43 years; his wife died in 1833, aged about 40 years; they were the parents of eight children, of whom our subject was the third. James received an ordinary education in the schools of Scotland, and in this country, where he came with his parents when eleven years of age. He began life as a farmer in this county, and ran a saw and grist mill for a few years, one mile west of his present place of residence. In this county, Oct. 1, 1856, he

married Sarah E. Hopkins; born in Indiana, Dec. 19, 1824; daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Begg) Hopkins; he, a native of Delaware (deceased); she, still living; born June 15, 1797; from this union two children have been born, viz.: Henry, born July 24, 1857, and Dorothea E., Oct. 16, 1858; both at home. Mr. Cunningham was formerly a Whig, but is now a Republican; his wife is a member of the Methodist Church; he has been Township Trustee for fifteen years.

JOHN J. HIGGINSON, station agent, Philadelphia; was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., Feb. 14, 1844, and is the next to the youngest child in a family of five; he received a common-school education, and came to Illinois when ten years of age, and located in Cass County. In 1878 he went to merchandising at Philadelphia, where he continued in business until 1882, when he accepted a position on the O. & M. Railroad, as station agent at Philadelphia. During the Rebellion he entered the service in Co. C, 3d Ill. Cav., with Capt. Schellenberger, under command of Col. McCrellis, and remained in the service three years. He was married in Cass County, Dec. 25, 1879, to Miss Ophelia Flinn, who was born in November, 1860, to John and Hannah Flinn. By her he has one child, Everett. Edward Higginson, the father of John, was born in Ireland; was a weaver by trade. He died in 1854, aged about sixty years. His wife, Mary Ellen Taggart, was also a native of Ireland; died in 1853, aged about fifty-seven years. Mr. Higginson has an unsullied reputation, and is considered a thorough business man. Politically, he is a Republican. His wife is a member of the Christian Church.

JAMES M. HINCHEE, merchant, Philadelphia; was born in Sangamon Co., Ill., March 11, 1843. William W. Hinchee, the father of our subject, a farmer by occupation, was born in Kentucky, Feb. 22,

1818; and died Feb. 14, 1880; his wife, Margaret Ray, a native of Sangamon County Ill., is still living, being now about sixty years of age; of their eight children, our subject is the eldest. James M. received an ordinary education in the schools of his native county, and on the breaking out of the late war, enlisted in Co. K, 33d Ill. Volunteer Infantry Capt. C. E. Lippincott under Col. C. E. Havey, remaining in service four years and three months, during which time he participated in the siege of Vicksburg, and the battles of Raymond and Champion Hill. After leaving the army he engaged in farming; in 1870 engaged in bridge building in connection with farming, and in 1874 came to Philadelphia, where he followed carpentering till July, 1881, when he entered the mercantile business in partnership with J. J. Higginson, whose interest he bought out in March, the following year, and has since conducted the business on his own account. In Cass County, Ill., Nov. 21, 1867, he married Mary E. Clark, a native of that county, born Aug. 29, 1846, who has borne him six children: Ada V., Norval, William E., Alice, Martha, and an infant unnamed. Mrs. Hinchee is a daughter of Rev. William and Elizabeth (Warnack) Clark, the latter deceased. Mr. Hinchee is a Republican.

CHARLES C. ROBINSON, deceased; was born in Menard County, Ill., Nov. 25, 1834, and died Jan. 19, 1881. He was the second child of a family of seven, born to James M. and Mary (Jay) Robinson, natives of New York, who came West in 1832, and were early settlers of Menard County, Ill. Our subject received a common school education, spent several years mining in California, then ran a mill for a short time, but eventually engaged in farming, which occupation he followed until his death.

On his farm he raised the usual crops, and also handled stock quite extensively. He took a deep interest in all things tending to the growth and prosperity of the county. Since his death the farm has been managed by Mrs. Robinson and her children. He married, in this county, Oct. 9, 1860, to Julia Pathicary, born Jan. 16, 1841. From this union nine children have been born, viz.: Charles M., Mary, Emma, Thomas, Addie, Seth, Jay, Jean, and Clara. Mrs. Robinson is a daughter of Dr. Thomas and Betsy (Pierce) Pathicary; he, born April 21, 1799, died July 21, 1878; she, still living, born July 24, 1806. Dr. Thomas Pathicary, Mrs. Robinson's father, was a native of England, and came to Virginia, this county, July 4, 1832, having previously spent several years in Pennsylvania, New York, and Kentucky. He kept a hotel in Virginia, this county, several years, and then engaged in farming. Mr. Robinson was a Republican, and a member of the A. F. & A. M., and A. O. U. W.

WILLIAM ROSS, farmer; P. O. Philadelphia; was born in Ireland, Nov. 12, 1839; son of Samuel and Margaret (Bailey) Ross, natives of Ireland; he, a farmer by occupation, died in 1839; she, in 1854. William, the youngest of a family of six children, was educated in the parish schools of Ireland, and at the age of eighteen, came to America. In 1855, he came to this county, where he has since followed farming. In Beardstown, this county, in 1864, he married Maggie Allitt, born in Ireland, in 1842, daughter of John and Nancy (Bailey) Allitt, natives of Ireland; he, still living; she, deceased. From this union eight children have been born, viz.: Mary, John, Nancy, William, Walter, Ethel, Nellie, and Royal. Mr. Ross is an adherent of the Republican party.

### MONROE PRECINCT.

RICHARD L. DAVIS, farmer, P. O. Beardstown; is a native of Kentucky; born April 14, 1826; son of James B. and Elizabeth (Hawkins) Davis, natives of Virginia, parents of twelve children, Richard L. being the seventh child of the family, of whom four are deceased. His education was received in the schools of Monroe Precinct, and he has since been engaged in farming. He was married in Arenzville Precinct, this county, in October 1854 to Elizabeth Buck, born in Tennessee, Nov. 14, 1824, who bore him thirteen children: Joseph, Peter (deceased), Stephen, Mary E., Jasper J. (deceased), Richard (deceased), Jane, Sophia, Jacob, Annie, Andrew J., Richard and Emma. Mrs. Davis was a daughter of Jasper and Sophia Buck; her father was born in North Carolina in 1791, and died March 1, 1841; her mother, also born in North Carolina, in 1789, died in 1867. His second wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Edward and Ellen Morrison, has borne him three children, two of whom are deceased. Mr. Davis has filled the office of School Director. He is a supporter of the Democratic party.

GEO. W. DAVIS, farmer, P. O. Virginia, was born in Monroe Precinct, this county, May 11, 1834, son of James and Elizabeth (Foster) Davis; he, born in Kentucky in 1796; a farmer by occupation, and died in 1857; she, born in Tennessee in 1800 and still living. They had fourteen children, nine of whom are yet living. Our subject was educated in the schools of his native county, learned the trade of a carpenter, but has been engaged in farming all his life. Sept. 22, 1857, he married Miss Frances V. Tureman, daughter of Mr. George Tureman, of

this county, and four children have been born to Mr. Davis: Alma E.; Willis T., who is in Washington Territory; Minnie M., and Horace A. Mr. Davis has filled the positions of School Director and Road Supervisor; is a Greenbacker, a Mason, and an A. O. U. W.

ELIAS DAVIS, farmer, P. O. Virginia, is a native of this county, born in Beardstown, Feb. 20, 1844; son of Edward and Juliann (Davis) Davis; natives of Kentucky, he, a farmer by occupation; born March 22, 1820; she born Dec. 23, 1811. Elias is the third child of a family of nine children, of whom three are deceased. He received a fair education in the schools of Monroe and Virginia Precincts, and has since devoted his attention to farming. He was married in Virginia, this county, Sept. 17, 1867, to Melinda J., daughter of Jarrett and Margaret Paschal; from this marriage four children have been born, Olive G. (deceased), Mark R., Harris E., and Edith A.; Mr. Davis is a Greenbacker; he is a member of Virginia Lodge, A. O. U. W.

DAVID DUPES, Farmer; P. O. Bluff Springs; is a native of Pennsylvania, born April 29, 1813; son of John and Elizabeth (Ralvant) Dupes. John Dupes was born in Pennsylvania, in 1785, and died in 1851; his wife was born in 1800, and died in 1866; they had twelve children, David being the fifth child; four are deceased. David received his education in his native State, and begun life as a farmer, and has since pursued that occupation. In Schuyler County, Ill., in 1843, he married Kate Neithamer, born in Dec. 1828, daughter of William and Elizabeth Neithamer, and from this union eleven children have been born, Christian, Mary E., John



D., Jesse, Daniel, David, Valentine, George, Kate, Harriet, and one deceased, unnamed. Mr. Dupes is a Democrat; he was school director three terms.

CONRAD FUNK, farmer, P. O. Bluff Springs, is a native of Germany; born Dec. 26, 1832; his father was Conrad Funk, a native of Germany, born in 1807, and died on the ocean in the fall of 1832, and his mother's name was Catharine Doll before her marriage; she is still living, and is the mother of three children. Our subject was reared to farming, and has followed that occupation all his working days, having commenced in Cass County when a boy. He has also done something at auctioneering and dealing in stock. He was married in Beardstown, July 28, 1857, to Miss Lucina F. Steiner, who was born in Texas Dec. 5, 1839, and eight children have been born to him: Conrad, (dead); Henry C., Louis A., Rosa, Mary, George E., Emma and Frank, (dead). He is a Democrat, and a member of the Lutheran Church.

ISAIAH E. HUFFMAN, farmer; P. O. Arenzville; was born in Woodford County, Ky., Dec. 22, 1826, son of Alexander and Mildred (Eddius) Huffman, both natives of Virginia; he, born Feb. 19, 1800, and she, Sept. 17, 1797; he, died in 1872, and she in 1880; they had five children; he was a carpenter as well as a farmer. Our subject is, also, a carpenter as well as a farmer, and has done considerable work in that line. He was married in this precinct, Nov. 18, 1856, to Sarah F. Miller, born in this county May 17, 1840, daughter of William C. and Sarah Miller; he is a Virginian, and she a native of York State. Mr. and Mrs. Huffman have been blessed with eight children: Charles, Sarah E., Laura M., William, Lena L., Lydia, Alexander and Joseph. He is a Democrat, and a member of the A. F. & A. M. Lodge, No. 23, Beardstown.

CHARLES HUFFMAN, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born in this county, Oct. 19,

1857; is the eldest of a family of eight children born to Isaiah and Sarah F. (Miller) Huffman, both still living. Isaiah Huffman is a farmer, and was born in Woodford County, Ky., Dec. 22, 1826; his wife, and mother of subject, is a native of this county, born May 15, 1840. Subject, after receiving his education in the Springer school-house, Monroe Precinct, engaged in farming, which occupation he still follows. He was married in Monroe Precinct, this county, Dec. 25, 1879, to Lydia A. McClure, a native of that precinct, born May 23, 1860, daughter of John W. and Harriet McClure; he, born in Cincinnati, Ohio, June 11, 1824, died Sept. 3, 1868; she, born in Charlestown, W. Va., Feb. 26, 1824. Mr. Huffman is an adherent of the Democratic party.

A. L. HAGERMAN, farmer; P. O. Bluff Springs, is a native of this county, born in Monroe Precinct in 1857; son of Isaac and Susan (Leschy) Hagerman; natives of Pennsylvania; he, a farmer by occupation, born in 1809, died in Monroe Precinct in 1873; she, born in 1813, is still living; of their eight children, A. L. is the seventh child. He received his education in the schools of his native precinct, and has since followed farming. He is a Republican. Two of Mr. Hagerman's brothers, William and Maniel, served in the army during the late war.

DANIEL LAHMAN, farmer; P. O. Bluff Springs, is a native of Franklin County, Pa.; born Oct. 11, 1822; son of John and Catharine B. (Everly) Lahman. John Lahman, subject's father, was born in Franklin County, Pa., Aug. 24, 1788, came to this county July 12, 1843, where he followed farming, and died Jan. 24, 1854; his wife, who was a native of Adams County, Pa., born in 1794, died in Warren County, Ill., in August, 1860; of their fourteen children, twelve lived to maturity. The subject of this sketch attended school in Pennsylvania and Ohio,

and began life as a farmer, and still follows that occupation. He has been twice married, first, in Beardstown, this county, Feb. 1; 1847, to Highly Carver; born in Ohio Jan. 13, 1806; daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Carver; she died leaving one child, John W. His second wife is Sitha Morris, a native of Barren County, Ky., born Jan. 28, 1833; she is a daughter of Abijah and Elizabeth Morris. Mr. Lahman has been school director and road supervisor; he is a Democrat and a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

ANN MARY McHENRY, farmer; P. O., Virginia; was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., April 8, 1834; daughter of James and Nancy (Clark) McHenry; he was born in Washington County, Pa., July 12, 1801, and she in Ohio County, Va., Jan. 23, 1806; he was a farmer by occupation, and died in Monroe Precinct, Feb. 14, 1867; she died Jan. 1, 1866; they were the parents of six children, five of whom grew to maturity, our subject, Miss Ann Mary, being the eldest. She received a very good education, and taught in the Springer School, when she was twenty-three years of age. Miss McHenry is a lady who is highly respected for her many excellent qualities, and has a large circle of friends.

WILLIAM E. McCLURE, farmer; P. O. Virginia; is a native of this county, born in Monroe Precinct, March 13, 1856; son of John W. and Harriet (Barger) McClure. John W. McClure, our subject's father, a farmer by occupation, was born in Ohio, June 11, 1824, and died Sept. 3, 1868; his wife, who is still living, was born in Charlestown, W. Va., Feb. 26, 1824; they were the parents of nine children. Subject received a fundamental education in the schools of Monroe Precinct, and finished at Lincoln University, Logan Co., Ill. He began the business of life as a farmer, and has since pursued that occupa-

tion. Mr. McClure is a supporter of the Republican party.

WILLIAM NISBET, farmer; P. O. Virginia, was born in Ohio, May 24, 1807; son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Denny) Nisbet, natives of Pennsylvania; he, a merchant and farmer, born Dec. 25, 1772, died in Ohio, Aug. 28, 1819; she, born May 26, 1782, died May 9, 1864. Of their nine children but two are living. Subject received a fair education in Ohio, and engaged in farming, which pursuit he still follows. Mr. Nisbet has been married three times: first, in this county, Aug. 12, 1841, to Patience Clark, daughter of William and Margaret Clark. She was born April 27, 1818, and died June 23, 1842. His second wife, whom he married in McDonough Co., Ill., Sept. 18, 1843, was Jane Rice, daughter of Benjamin Rice. She was born in Green Co., Ky., Nov. 11, 1817, and died Aug. 4, 1848. His third wife, whom he married in this county, Jan. 25, 1860, is Eliza Massey, born in Brown Co., Ill., Jan. 13, 1836, daughter of Henderson and Martha Massey. There were no children by the first two marriages, but by the third marriage eight children have been born, of whom seven are living, viz.: Chalmers, Walter, John, Newell, Bethune, George and Mary. Mr. Nisbet is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

HENRY C. PRATT, farmer; P. O., Virginia, was born in Virginia, this county, June 18, 1845; son of John W. and Emily (Savage) Pratt. John W. Pratt was born in Indiana, Dec. 3, 18 6; he was by profession a lawyer, and at the time of his death, which occurred Oct. 7, 1847, was the representative of Cass County in the Legislature; he was the first County Clerk of this county. His wife, a native of Onondaga County N. Y., born Oct. 30, 1817 died Dec. 17, 1873; they were the parents of five children. Henry C., received a fair education in the schools of this precinct, and has since followed farming.

When sixteen years of age he enlisted in Company G., 34th Illinois, and served four years. In Virginia, this county, Oct. 27, 1870, he married Catharine Kroell, born in this precinct, Jan. 1, 1848, daughter of Christian and Annie C. Kroell, natives of Germany; he, born Dec. 31, 1820; she, born Nov. 30, 1815. Mr. and Mrs. Pratt are the parents of three children: Harry E., Christina A. and John G.; they belong to the M. E. Church.

**JAMES V. RAWLINGS**, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born in Cecil County, Md., Aug. 29, 1836; fourth child of a family of nine, born to Greenbury and Elizabeth (Dobler) Rawlings. Greenbury Rawlings, who was a farmer, and also a hatter, was born in Cecil County, Md., Aug. 19, 1807, and died in Monroe Precinct, this county, Sept. 23, 1864; his wife and mother of subject, was born in Lancaster, Pa., Jan. 29, 1838; of their nine children two are deceased. Subject attended school in Pennsylvania, afterward at Beardstown and the Springer School. He began the business of life as a farmer, and has since been engaged in that occupation. In Virginia, this county, October 30, 1835, he married Anna E. Price, born in Morgan County, Ill., Jan. 5, 1813, who has borne him three children, viz.: Rosa F., born Nov. 17, 1866; Greenbury A., born Oct. 5, 1868; and James W., born July 31, 1871. Mrs. Rawlings is a daughter of Adam and Susan Price, natives of the State of Virginia; he, born in 1804, died in February, 1875; she, born in 1813, died Sept. 27, 1880. Mr. Rawlings is a Republican, a member of the A. F. & A. M., and of the A. O. U. W.

**HENRY SCHAEFFER**, deceased, was born in Montgomery County, O., June 28, 1812; son of John and Christina (Ream) Schaeffer, who were the parents of thirteen children. John Schaeffer was a native of Pennsylvania, and served in the war of 1812, under General

Hull. Our subject received his education in his native State, and began working at the carpenter's trade, afterward engaging in farming. In Sangamon County, Ills., September 15, 1836, he married Sophia Berger, a native of Virginia, born April 12, 1817, who bore him eight children: John M., Francis M., Mary E. (deceased), Eliza J., W. Franklin, James A., Theodore H. (deceased), and Lucinda A. Mrs. Schaeffer's parents, Adam and Lucinda Barger, were natives of Virginia; her father died in the summer of 1865; her mother born in 1795, died in 1853. Mr. Schaeffer was a school director for some time; he was a Democrat; the family are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

**CHARLES R. SAVAGE**, farmer; P. O., Bluff Springs; is a native of this county; born April 27, 1838; son of John and Elizabeth (Smith) Savage, natives of New York State. John Savage—subject's father—a farmer by occupation, was born in Herkimer County, N. Y., Nov. 8, 1793, and died Dec. 14, 1862; his wife was born Dec. 11, 1798, died Jan. 13, 1875; she was the mother of seven children. Subject attended school in Monroe Precinct, afterward finishing at the Illinois College, Jacksonville, Ill., and has ever since followed farming. He was married in this county Nov. 13, 1866, to Sarah E. Springer, a native of this county, born Nov. 21, 1843, daughter of Job and Elizabeth Springer; from this union six children have been born, viz.: Henrietta, George, Mary E., Henry S., Edwin G. and James G. Mr. Savage has been Road Supervisor and School Director; he is a Republican; a member of Virginia Lodge No. 544, A. F. and A. M., and of Arcadia Lodge I. O. O. F.; his wife is a member of the M. E. Church.

**HARVEY SPRINGER**, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born in Uniontown, Fayette County, Penn., March 9, 1808; son of Zadok and Eleanor (McIntyre) Springer; he, a

farmer, born in Pennsylvania in 1775, and dying in 1850; she, born in 1777, and dying in 1855. They were the parents of ten children. Our subject, in addition to the common schools, attended the Academy in Uniontown, Pa., and afterward worked in Iron Works in Fayette County, Pa., but has spent most of his life in farming. In 1833, in Fayette County, he married Miss Fanny Gray, born in Pennsylvania in 1810, daughter of John and Hannah Gray, and eight children have been the result of the union: Thaddeus, Morgan, George, Eveline, Albina J., Emma, Ellen, and Alice. He is a Democrat.

ABNERSCHAEFFER, farmer, P.O. Arenzville; was born near the old town of Monroe, in Monroe Precinct, this county, Feb. 7, 1848; son of Henry and Sophia (Burger) Schaeffer; he a native of Ohio—a carpenter and farmer—died in 1863; she, still living. They were the parents of eight children. Subject began life as a farmer in Monroe precinct, where he received his education and where he has since been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He married in Bearstown, this county, Nov. 25, 1874, Eliza Ruff, born in Ohio, April 13, 1843, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Ruff. From this union they have one child, Harry H. Mr. Schaeffer is a Republican.

JONATHAN D. SPRINGER, farmer; P. O. Arenzville; was born in Monroe, this county, Nov. 29, 1854; son of Job and Elizabeth (Boyle) Springer; he, a farmer by occupation, died April 14, 1882; she, still living, is the mother of eight children, two by her first husband, Jacob Springer, and six by her second husband. Mr. Springer received his education in the Old Springer school-house, in Monroe Precinct, and has always been a farmer. In Arenzville Precinct, this county, Dec. 20, 1877, he married Mary F. Beard, a native of Virginia, daughter of John and Mary Beard; and by this union two children have been born. He has been School Director; is a

member of the I. O. O. F., and a Republican.

HENRY STOCK, farmer (deceased); was a native of Darmstadt, Germany; born April 5, 1801, and was the second child of a family of six children. His father, also a native of Germany, followed the occupation of a farmer. Mr. Stock began life as a farmer, which occupation he afterward followed. He was married in Virginia, this county, Nov. 18, 1840, to Elizabeth Singer, a native of Darmstadt, Germany, born Dec. 20, 1812, who bore him five children: Henry (deceased), Henry (deceased), Eliza, Christ, and Philip. Mr. Stock was a member of the Hungarian Church; he was a Democrat.

JOHN H. TUREMAN, of Monroe Precinct, son of George and Elizabeth (Harbold) Tureman, was born November 6, 1828, on the Tureman homestead, Cass County. Of our subject, as a citizen and an agriculturist, the people of Cass County need little information. His thrift, energy and enterprise, duly accounts for the success he has thus far attained in life, and they may well look to him as an example of the opportunities their county affords to an industrious, frugal and legitimate tiller of the soil. Mr. Tureman is one of the oldest native born citizens of Cass County. His mother was a native of Pennsylvania, and his father a native of old Virginia, and both came to Kentucky with their parents early in life. The Harbolds settled about seven miles from Louisville, and the Turemans in that vicinity. It was here that their marriage took place, and in the year 1820 they settled on White River, in Indiana. There they remained until 1827, when they removed to Cass County, bought an improvement, and settled the present Tureman homestead, the home of our subject. Their first purchase was 80 acres, and to this, he from time to time added, until he had acquired in all about 600 acres. George Tureman was known as a man of untiring

perseverance, progressive and temperate in his habits, independent in his methods and views, social in his nature, and shared the friendship and entire confidence of his pioneer acquaintances. They raised a family of twelve children, all of them are married and raised families, except David, the oldest, and Tracy, who died of consumption at 18 years of age. Eliza married William Carr, and settled with her husband near Rock Island, this State, where she died in 1838. Ann married James Cook, of Cass County, and are now both deceased. David was the next, and then George. Leonard married Mary Schaffer. Catharine married William Patterson, and lives in Jacksonville. Arsanoine and her husband, Cabal Paterson, moved to Oregon, where she died 23 years since. Our subject is the next. Mary E. married James Alison, William went to Oregon, Tracy died of consumption at 18 years of age, Virginia married George Davis, and lives in Morgan County. Mr. Tureman died of cholera, in June, 1835, in the fifty-second year of his age; Mrs. Tureman, his devoted wife, survived until 1869, and departed at 80 years of age. John H., our subject, was married December 12, 1850, to Miss Mary J. Davis, daughter of James and Elizabeth (Foster) Davis, who came from Kentucky to Sangamon County as early as 1824. They first located on an improvement, built a substantial log cabin, and planted about 15 acres of corn, but were soon, by fraudulent means, totally deprived of their home, and they then removed to Cass County. James Davis was a native of Kentucky, and his father, also James, was a soldier of the war of 1812, and died in the service. Mrs. Tureman is the fifth child or third daughter of the family, and was born November 24, 1830. They have had three children. Alice, who died an infant, April 1, 1852, Frances Parthenia, now Mrs. Hugh W. Harrison of Belleville, Saint Clair Co., Illinois, and John F., at home.

David Cook, an orphan, has been considered a member of the family for about six years. Mr. Tureman's private estate comprises 320 acres in his homestead and 400 acres in Logan County, this State. Mrs. Tureman is a member of the Shiloh Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Tureman is a member of the Knights of Honor, of Virginia. A full page portrait of our subject appears elsewhere in this work.

GEORGE A. TREADWAY, farmer (deceased); was born May 11, 1812; son of Edward and Elizabeth (Anderson) Treadway; he, born Dec. 15, 1784, died Jan. 23, 1859; she, born May 8, 1789, died Dec. 11, 1831. Subject received his education in Kentucky, and engaged in farming, which occupation he followed until his death, which occurred Aug. 27, 1877. He married in this county May 28, 1835, Elizabeth Miller a native of Boteourt Co., Va., born Jan. 20, 1814, who bore him ten children, viz.: George E., Mary E., Marion F., John P. (deceased), William H. (deceased), Hester A., Sarah Jane, Charles L., Lucinda F. E., and Stephen A. Mr. Treadway was a local preacher of the Union Baptist Church, filled the office of School Director for some time; he was a Democrat. Mrs. Treadway is a daughter of George F. and Elizabeth Miller; he, born July 10, 1774, died July 19, 1839; she, a native of Virginia, born in 1771, died April 27, 1863.

LUDWIG WILDT, farmer; P. O. Bluff Springs; is a native of Prussia, Germany; born Nov. 24, 1832; tenth child of a family of eleven children born to Frederick and Dorothea (Strutzenberg) Wildt, both natives of Hanover, Germany. Subject received his education in his native land, and has always been a farmer; his father also was a farmer. In Monroe Precinct, this county, July 22, 1862, he married Augusta Gövert, born in St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 8, 1840, who has borne him nine children, viz.: Anna, Louisa (deceased),

Henry, Wilhelm, Caroline, Albert, Dorothy (deceased), Emily and George. Mrs. Wildt is a daughter of Herman and Anna Gvert, natives of Hanover, Germany; the latter born May 14, 1830. Mr. Wildt is a Republican: has been school director; is a member of the M. E. Church.

CORNELIUS C. WOODWARD, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born in Virginia, this county, Sept. 9, 1844, son of Amos and Mary (McHenry) Woodward. Amos Woodward, who was a blacksmith by trade, was born in Pennsylvania in 1814, and died Jan.

15, 1855; his widow, who is still living, is a native of Virginia, born July 18, 1817; Cornelius is the eldest of their family of six children, of whom three are deceased. He received his education in the schools of Virginia, this county, and began farming, in which occupation he is still engaged. He enlisted in the Fifty-Ninth Illinois Regiment, and served in the last year of the late war under Gen. Thomas. Mr. Woodward is a Democrat, and has filled the office of School Director.

## OREGON PRECINCT.

JOSEPH ALLISON, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born in Tuscarawas Co., Ohio, Oct. 17, 1828. Came to Cass County in 1842, with his parents, who were among the early settlers of the county. Joseph Allison, subject's father, supposed to have been born in Pennsylvania, was a farmer by occupation, and died in February, 1861, aged 69 years. His wife, Elizabeth Spawn, also a native of Pennsylvania, was born about 1790, and died seventeen days after the death of her husband. She was the mother of nine children, of whom subject was the seventh child. At 22 years of age he purchased the homestead farm. He was married in this county Dec. 26, 1849, to Miss Martha H. Crews, who was born in Barren Co., Kentucky, Dec. 8, 1831. She died March 17, 1851, leaving one child, viz.: John Wesley H., born March 3, 1851. Mrs. Allison was a daughter of Jesse and Susan Crews, of this county. Mr. Allison was married again Feb. 22, 1852, to Miss Cecilia A. Logue, born in Warren Co., Tenn., April 30, 1829, to Oliver and Rebecca (Cole) Logue, natives of Tennessee, deceased, she still living. From this marriage three children have been born, viz.: James Edwin, born May 30, 1858; Arthur, born Aug. 11, 1866, and Elizabeth (deceased), born June 1, 1854, died Dec. 30, 1854. The oldest child, John, is in Iowa; the others are living at home. Mr. and Mrs. Allinson are connected with the M. E. Church; he is a Republican, has been a member of the I. O. O. F., of Virginia, and has held several of the minor township offices.

HARRISON W. BOWERS, farmer, P. O., Virginia; was born in Lowell, Mass., Nov. 15, 1837; son of Reuben D. and Eliza (Whitney)

Bowers; he, a farmer, died Oct. 23, 1878, aged about 70 years; she died April 27, 1839, aged 27 years. Subject at two years old was placed in his uncle's care, in Vermont, his mother having died soon after his birth. He assisted his uncle in farming until his fourteenth year, when he came to Monroe County, Ills., having little or no means. He followed teaming five years; came to this county in 1859, and hired as a farm hand, and after having earned the means, bought forty acres of unimproved land, upon which he built a house and barn, and made other improvements; two years after he sold that place and purchased forty acres which he still owns, and to which he has added from time to time, till he now owns 140 acres of choice farm land, well cultivated, on which he has erected a fine farm residence, and has made all the improvements necessary to convenience and comfort. He raises the usual farm crops, and also handles stock in a small way. In 1857, he married Elizabeth Morgan, who died one year after. September 24, 1861, he married Mrs. Therza Deardoff, born at Quincy, Ills., Jan 28, 1835; from this second marriage he has one child, Renben, born July 10, 1862. Mrs. Bowers' first husband, Paul Deardoff, was a farmer; was born Dec. 3, 1830, and died April 3, 1861, leaving two children, viz.: Charles, born April 3, 1861, and Martha, born March 17, 1859. Mr. Bowers served nine months in Co. A, 10th Illinois Infantry, under Capt. Henry McGruff, Col. Titson, commanding the regiment. He is a Republican, and a member of the I. O. O. F., and A. O. U. W.; himself and wife are Methodists.

ROBERT P. BELL, farmer; P. O., Chandlerville; was born in Pulaski County,

Virginia, March 6, 1829, sixth child of a family of twelve, born to John and Mary (Vinyard) Bell, natives of Virginia. He, a farmer by occupation, died in 1839, aged about fifty-five years; she died in 1880, aged seventy-seven years. Subject, after receiving such an education as the common schools of that day afforded, began life as a farmer. He came to this county in 1850, and to his present place of residence in 1860, where he has since followed farming, putting all the improvements on his place himself. He has been twice married; first, in Virginia, in 1858, to Margaret S. Martin, a native of that State; died in 1862; four children were born from this marriage, viz.: Charles, Eliza, John, and one died in infancy. In 1865 he married Jemima Palmer, a native of Virginia, born in 1849, who has borne him nine children, seven of whom are living, viz.: Mary, Melissa, Albert, William, Milton, Riley and Winnie. Mr. Bell is a supporter of the Democratic party.

ELIJAH CARVER, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born in Madison County, Ky., Dec. 11, 1805. When 21 years old he engaged as overseer upon a large plantation; farmed in Missouri two years; in 1832 came to Illinois and located at Walnut Grove, this county, and two years later moved to his present place, which has been his home for forty-eight years, and where he has been engaged in general farming. He was married Jan. 15, 1828, to Miss Sophia Haff, who was born Nov. 30, 1811, and died Feb. 4, 1866, leaving four children, viz.: Fletcher T. (see Hist.) Harrison, of this county; Mary E., wife of Charles B. Hopkins, of Kansas; and Charles, also in Kansas. Mr. Carver again married in this county, Jan. 1, 1867, to Mary E. Boatman; born in Madison County, Ky., March 17, 1846, who has borne him 3 children, viz.: Ida May, born April 12, 1868; Elijah, born June 13, 1869; Estella, born Nov. 18, 1872. Mrs. Carver is a daughter of Nel-

son and Elizabeth (Todd) Boatman, natives of Kentucky, still living at Philadelphia, this county. Mr. Carver's father, William Carver, a farmer, was born in Virginia, in 1760, and died April 19, 1837. His wife, Mary Duncan, born about 1768, died about 1817. They had nine children, of whom our subject is the fifth child. He was originally an old line Whig, but is now a Republican; himself and wife are connected with the Methodist Church.

JOHN CUNNINGHAM, farmer; P. O. Newmansville; is a native of Scotland, born Dec. 3, 1830; sixth child of James Cunningham (see history). Subject came to this country with his parents in July, 1836, where he received but a limited education in the common schools. He worked for some time in a tan-yard, and on attaining his majority, engaged in farming, which he has since followed; he owns 160 acres of land, and in addition to the usual crops, raises considerable cattle. He married, Dec. 12, 1865, Margaret J. Allen, a Canadian by birth, daughter of Robert and Margaret (Kennedy) Allen; he, a native of Canada (deceased); she, a native of Scotland, still living; from this union they have had three children; Margaret J., David K. and Ethel R. Mr. Cunningham has been School Director and Township Trustee; he is a strong advocate of temperance; he is a Republican; his wife is a member of the Presbyterian church.

F. T. CARVER, farmer; P. O. Philadelphia; was born in Mercer County, Ky., Oct. 6, 1828; eldest child of a family of six, born to Elijah and Sophia (Haff) Carver, natives of Kentucky; he, still living; she, deceased. When three years old our subject was taken to Missouri by his parents, and three years after came to this county, where he has since resided; he left home when 21 years old, and has since been engaged in farming on his own account. In this county May 14, he



married Sarah D. Howard, born in Fulton County, May 15, 1832, daughter of John C. and Anna (Cadwelder) Howard, natives of Ohio, and both deceased; from this union seven children have been born, viz.: Elijah H., Mary E., wife of John W. Fell, of Jacksonville, Ill.; Anna N., Helen, William, Dally and Elmer R. Mr. Carver is a staunch Republican; has been School Director; he is a Methodist.

WILLIAM S. GARNER, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born in this county, Dec. 16, 1837 (for parents, see sketch of G. Garner). Subject received his education in the common school, and remained with his father until the death of the latter; then began farming on his own account, and has now a farm of 120 acres, on which he built a fine house in 1877. He was licensed to preach by the M. E. Church in 1876 and has since been a local preacher. In this county, Sept. 30, 1858, he married Nancy M. Crews, born in Sangamon County, Ill., Oct. 7, 1837, daughter of Jesse and Susan Crews, natives of Kentucky; he died in 1878; she, still living; from this union eight children have been born, viz.: Hanson A., Nellie, James H., L. E., Jessie, Bell, Gerie and Pearl. The first ploughing that Mr. Garner saw done, was with a wooden mold-board, and he was quite a large boy before he saw a team driven with lines; he saw the first threshing machine in this county, which was brought here by a Mr. Yaples. Mr. Garner is a Methodist; has been an Odd Fellow; he is a Republican.

REV. JAMES R. GARNER, minister and farmer; P. O. Berryton; was born in Indiana, May 30, 1830; has been a resident of this county over fifty-one years, having come here when the county was in its infancy, and has endured all the trials and hardships of a pioneer's life; he has followed farming all his life; has preached the gospel for twenty years, and, during that time, has married

about sixty couples. In this county, in 1850, he was married to Margaret Wilson, a native of Ohio; born Feb. 28, 1834, daughter of Joseph and May (Allison) Wilson; from this union they have been blessed with nine children, viz.: Mary W., Sarah, Charles R., Cynthia, S. G., James W., Joseph, Theodore and Renty. Mr. Garner is a Methodist, and is a supporter of the Republican party.

F. U. ISHAM, farmer; P. O. Ashland, was born in Warren County, Tenn., March 9, 1822. When nine years of age he was brought to this county by his parents, who were among the early settlers of this county. The place where they settled is owned by Joseph Whitenack. Subject, in 1864, purchased the place upon which he now resides. He was married Jan. 27, 1847, to Mary Clancy, born in Pike County, March 28, 1828; who has borne him seven children, viz.: Nancy L., died in her died in her fourteenth year; Wilburn A. died in January 1882; William M., died when 16 years of age; Marinda, wife of John Spencer, of Springfield; John T., at home; Ophelia wife of Andrew Brown, of this county, and Lola E., wife of Nolton Garner. Mrs. Isham is a daughter of Hiram Clancy, an early settler of this county; he and his wife, Lucinda Thacker, both deceased. James Isham, subject's father, was born in Virginia, in 1793; was a farmer, and died March 20, 1847. His wife, Nancy Hash, born in North Carolina Feb. 11, 1790, died Oct. 7, 1847; they had ten children, of whom subject is the sixth child. He is a Democrat, and a member of the M. E. Church. By the death of his parents he inherited the old homestead farm, which he sold to Mr. Whitenack in 1864.

DAVID M. LOGAN, physician, Newmansville; was born in Belmont County, Ohio, Jan. 4, 1821. In 1836 he came with his parents to this county; they located on the Sangamon bottom, near Beardstown, and engaged in farming. James Logan, subject's

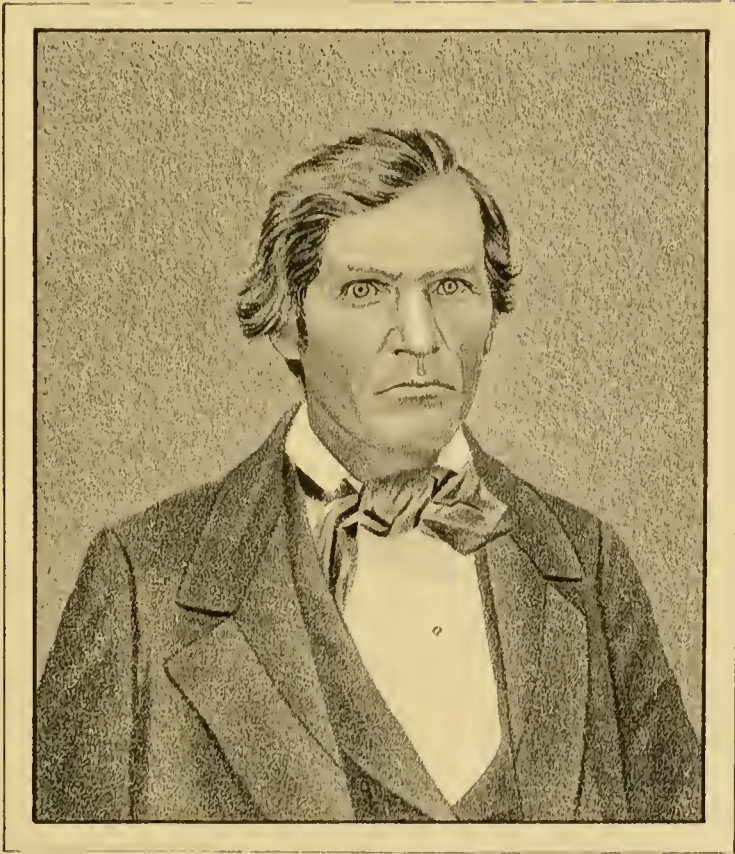
father, was born in Huntington County, Pa. The family is of Irish descent, and some of the ancestry came to America in 1775. Emma Collins Logan, the mother of our subject, was a descendant of the Tillinghast, Collins and Green families, of Rhode Island. She was the mother of eleven children, of whom the doctor is the fourth. At the age of twenty-one he began teaching in the Beardstown schools; the principal part of his education was obtained in the literary department of the Illinois College; he attended his first course of lectures in the Medical department of that institution. In 1857 he graduated at the St. Louis Medical College, receiving his diploma as an M. D., and immediately entered upon the practice of his profession at Newmansville, where he has since remained. He married in this county, Jan. 20, 1858, Miss Rebecca W. Hamilton, who was born in Loudoun County, Va., June 20, 1830; they have six children, viz.: Sally, Edwin M., Emma, Stella, Charles C. and Agnes; the two latter deceased. Mrs. Logan is a daughter of Charles B. and Sarah C. (Lucket) Hamilton, natives of Loudoun County, Va.; he deceased; she is still living. Dr. Logan was at one time a member of the I. O. O. F; he is a Republican.

WILLIAM W. MATHEW, farmer; P. O. Newmansville; is a native of this county; born Oct. 7, 1844; eldest child of a family of nine, born to Lewis C. and Rebecca (Conyers) Mathew; he, a farmer, born in Indiana, Nov. 28, 1820, died Jan. 14, 1863; she, born in Kentucky, Aug. 18, 1825. Subject, at seventeen years of age, enlisted in Co. "F," 71st Ills. Volunteer Infantry, under Capt. Weaver, the regiment being commanded by Col. Gilbert; was in the 100 days' service, and after four months returned home. When twenty-three years of age he began farming on his own account, and now conducts a farm of 180 acres of choice farm land, on which, in addition to the usual grain crops, he raises large

numbers of cattle and hogs for market; he built a fine house in 1875; has also a fine barn. He has been twice married; first, in this county, Sept. 5, 1867, to Alice Hurie, who was born in 1851, and died March 11, 1871, leaving one child, Lewis L.; the last marriage was on March 23, 1876, to Louise L. Robinson; born in Linn County, Iowa, June 11, 1858, daughter of Andrew D. and Elizabeth Ellen (Wactle) Robinson; from this marriage one child has been born, viz.: Inez R. Mr. Mathew is a Democrat; he is a Master Mason.

WILLIAM E. MILSTEAD, farmer, deceased; was born in Kentucky, Feb. 25, 1829; son of Edward and Mary N. (Hinchee) Milstead, natives of Virginia; he, a shoemaker by trade, died about 1871; she died about 1870. Subject was the fifth child of a family of thirteen, and came to Morgan County, Ills., with his parents, when fourteen years old, and soon after to this county. He settled on the place where his widow now resides, in 1858, and, at his death, which occurred Sept. 6, 1872, had over 500 acres under cultivation, on which he had erected a fine farm residence, and made all the other improvements. He married in this county, Oct. 28, 1855, Ellen Struble; born Feb. 23, 1838, daughter of Andrew and Sarah (Stont) Struble, and from this union ten children have been born, eight of whom are living: Sarah L., James W., Philemon, Jacob D., Alfred S., George E., Laura, Florence, Ella, and Martha. Since his death his widow and children have managed the farm on which the usual farm crops are raised; and in addition they feed all kinds of stock, of which they handle a large amount. Mr. Milstead was a supporter of the Democratic party.

C. S. MATHEW, M. D., Newmansville; is a native of Menard Co., Ill.; born Feb. 25, 1851; son of Lewis C. and Rebecca (Conyers) Mathew. Lewis C. Mathew, subject's father, a native of Indiana, and a farmer



W. D. Seepce



by occupation, was born Nov. 28, 1820, and died Jan. 14, 1863; his wife, a native of Kentucky, was born Aug. 18, 1825. Our subject pursued the study of his profession in the medical department of the University of Ann Arbor, Mich., two years, and at the medical college of Cincinnati, Ohio, one year; practiced medicine in connection with Dr. Houghton, of Mason County, Ill., for a time; received his diploma in 1879, and located at Newmansville, where he has built up an extensive and rapidly increasing practice. The Doctor is a Democrat; he is a member of the Masonic lodge at Petersburg, Menard County, Ill.

ALEXANDER NEWMAN, farmer; P. O. Virginia; is a native of this county; born May 29, 1857; son of Robert and Sarah E. (Mangis) Newman, natives of Virginia; he, a farmer, residing in this county, she died about 1860, leaving two children, Alexander and Sarah Ann, wife of Thomas Workman, of Virginia. Our subject received an ordinary education, and at the age of nineteen years began farming on his own account, and has since pursued that occupation; he has a well cultivated farm of ninety acres, on which he raises the usual crops. In this county Oct. 29, 1878, he married Ellen Cunningham, a native of this county, born Dec. 24, 1857; daughter of Thomas and Euphemia (Wilkey) Cunningham, residents of this county; two children have been born from this union, viz.: Mary and Florence. Mr. Newman is a Republican.

ALEXANDER ROBISON, blacksmith, Newmansville; was born in Hamilton Co., Ohio, June 25, 1838, son of Cuthbert and Jane Ann (Bawser) Robison. Cuthbert Robison, subject's father, was born in Hamilton Co., Ohio, Aug. 20, 1808; was a blacksmith by trade, came to this county in the fall of 1856, and died in Virginia, this county, July 6, 1864. His wife, a native of Pennsylvania,

died Nov. 5, 1858. Our subject, the second child of a family of nine, received his education at Mount Pleasant, Ohio, and came with his parents to this county in 1856; worked on the farm two years, and in 1858 was apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade in Virginia, this county. In August, 1866, he came to Newmansville, where he started a blacksmith shop on his own account, and has since been engaged in that business, doing a good trade. He married in this county, Sept. 29, 1860, Martha J. Joyce, born in Butler County, O., March 22, 1840, daughter of James and Elizabeth (Hughes) Joyce, natives of Ohio, both deceased. From this union they have had three children, viz.: James W., Josephine, and Jessie A. Mr. Robison is Postmaster at Newmansville; has held that position ten years; has been Township Trustee eleven years, and has served the county as Magistrate about eighteen years. He is an adherent of the Democratic party.

WILLIAM WATKINS, farmer; P. O. Berryton; was born in Wayne County, Ill., July 17, 1831; son of Elijah and Lydia A. (Montgomery) Watkins; residents of Richmond township, this county. Elijah Watkins, a farmer by occupation, was born in Kentucky, July 23, 1797; his wife, also a native of Kentucky, was born April 25, 1802; of their fifteen children William is the eighth child. Our subject, when about four years of age, was brought by his parents to this county, where he received his education in the subscription schools common in those days. When twenty-two years of age he left home and began farming on his own account, and has since followed that occupation. He married in this county Oct. 23, 1853, Margaret Hincee; born Feb. 28, 1827. She died, leaving seven children, as follows: Charles W., William T., Elijah, Margaret, Lydia A., Albert, and Minnie B. His second marriage took place Sept. 1, 1881, when he married Belle Gordley, born in Adams County, Ill., May

5, 1850. She has taught school in this county about eleven years; she is a daughter of William and Sidney (Stephenson) Gordley, natives of Kentucky, he dying in June, 1856, she in September, 1859. Mr. Watkins is a member of the Methodist Church; he is a Democrat.

WILLIAM WYATT, farmer; P. O., Newmansville; was born in Fayette County, Ky., Feb. 22, 1828. When two years of age he was brought to Illinois by his parents, who located in Morgan County, on what was once called "Golden Prairie;" in 1846 they came to Newmansville, and five years later moved to the present residence of A. E. Wyatt. Our subject's parents, James and Sarah (Stephenson) Wyatt were natives of Kentucky, and had five children: Walter, deceased; John M., deceased; Andrew E.; William, and Elizabeth

Jane, wife of Hugh Sherrer, of Lincoln, Logan County, Ill. William moved to his present place of residence about the year 1851; he has made a success of the stock business, in which he engages quite extensively. He married in this county, April 27, 1851, Nancy Jane Nance; born in Green County, Ky., June 13, 1836, who has borne him four children: John Hardin, born April 26, 1852, died May 21, 1876; Fanny, born June 26, 1854, wife of Walter M. Thompson; Alice Mabel, born March 10, 1859, wife of James Struble, of Newmansville; and James Judy, born Jan. 31, 1862, at home. Mrs. Wyatt is a daughter of Ottawa B. and Sarah (Daniels) Nance, natives of Kentucky; he, deceased, she, living, aged eighty-four years, hale and hearty. Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt are members of the M. E. Church; he is a Republican.

## HICKORY PRECINCT.

HENRY BIERHAUSE, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born in Hanover, Germany, Mch. 25, 1834; son of George and Elizabeth Bierhause; he, a farmer, and dying at the age of 72 years; she is living, at the advanced age of 80 years; they had seven children. Our subject came to America in 1852, first settling at St. Louis, where he remained two years, coming to Cass County in 1854, when he began farming, and now owns 213 acres of excellent land, which has been acquired by industry and good management. In Cass County, in 1860, he married Annie Fabel, who has borne him 7 children: Rosie, Lizzie, Harry H., Edward, Annie, Milton and Lou. Is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and independent in politics.

G. W. COOK, farmer; P. O. Virginia; is a native of this county; born March 22, 1841; son of James and Ann (Trueman) Cook. James Cook was born in Ireland, about the year 1812; came to America at an early day and engaged in farming; he died about the year 1854; his wife, who was a native of Pennsylvania, died in this county about the year 1864; they were the parents of seven children. Mr. Cook received an ordinary education, and began life as a farmer, which occupation he still pursues, and now owns 110 acres of land. In 1865 he married Mary Quick, a native of Ohio, born in 1847, daughter of Oakey and Sarah (Osborn) Quick. He is a Greenbacker.

JACOB HOUCK, farmer; P. O. Chandler-ville; was born in Westmoreland County, Penn., July 31, 1827, son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Poorman) Houck; he is a native of Northampton County, Pa., who went to Ohio in 1838, came to Cass in 1852, and from

there went to Nebraska, where he died in 1871; his wife following him in 1875, at the age of 80 years; they had nine children, our subject being the sixth. At the age of 21, our subject began farming, and has so well succeeded, thanks to his thrift and perseverance, that he now owns 293 acres of choice land, all under good improvement. He also raises stock. In 1858, he married Rosanna Plaster, born in Tennessee, March 15, 1836, daughter of James and Nancy (Chamblis) Plaster, and two children have been born to them: Bessie and Harry. He is a Greenbacker.

ALVEY HORROM, farmer; P. O. Chandler-ville; was born in Dearborn County, Ind., Jan. 14, 1824; son of Benjamin and Sarah (Austin) Horrom; he is a native of Maine, and she of Massachusetts, who came to Cass County in 1829, he dying in 1847, aged 70 years, and she in 1863, aged 82 years; they had nine children, Alvey being the youngest. Our subject owns 250 acres of fine land, which he farms in the best manner. He has been married twice, but both wives are dead; the first was Nancy Adams, and the second Annie Goodpauster. His children are: Melinda, A. E., William, Lyman, Ray and Grace. He is a member of the Greenback party.

THOMAS KNIGHT, farmer; P. O. Beardstown; is a native of England, born in Cornwall, Aug. 14, 1836; son of Thomas K. and Elizabeth (Bellaco) Knight, who were the parents of seven children. His father was also a native of Cornwall, England, and followed the cooper's trade there till he came to the United States, where he engaged in farming; he died in 1866. Thomas attended school in England, and afterward in the schools here for some time, and began life as

a farmer here, on the Sangamon Bottom, and has since followed farming. He was married in Beardstown Precinct, this county, Oct. 27, 1859, to Emeline D. Haywood; born in Cornwall, England, Oct. 27, 1838; daughter of Peter and Mary Haywood; and by this union nine children have been born: May (deceased), Robert, Minnie, Myrtle, Albert J., Harry (deceased), Lloyd, Edwin, and an infant, deceased (unnamed). Mr. Knight was County Commissioner three years, in 1879-'80-'81; he is a Democrat.

ARCHIBALD TAYLOR, farmer; P. O., Chandlerville; was born in Scotland, July 2, 1806; son of Robert and Miza (McCoig) Taylor, both natives of Scotland; he died in 1819 and she in 1845; they had nine children, our subject being the fourth. Archibald was raised to farming, and also learned the trade of a weaver, at which he worked considerable in his native country, but after coming to America has followed farming, owning at the present time 700 acres of land, which is in a high state of cultivation. His first purchase was 100 acres, to which he has added until he has accumulated his fine estate. He has always taken an active interest in all matters of improvement of his precinct and county.

ROBERT TAYLOR, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; was born in Scotland, Nov. 25, 1816; son of Robert and Miza (McCoig) Taylor, both natives of Scotland; he, dying in 1819, and she, in 1845. Our subject came to America in 1835, and located in Champaign county, Ohio, where he remained four years; then came to Cass. In 1842 he purchased the land he now resides upon, and engaged in general farming and stock dealing. He was one of the first Trustees of the township, holding the position several years. Jan. 10, 1844, he married Miss Janet Cunningham; born in Scotland in 1824; daughter of John and Ellen (Taylor) Cunningham, and is the father of twelve children, all living: Ellen, Angus, John

W., Flora, Maggie, Miza, Alice, Archibald, Duncan, Katie, Janie, and Robert. Is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, and independent in politics.

CALVIN WILSON, farmer; P. O. Chandlerville; was born in Perry County, Ohio, Aug. 24, 1828; son of James and Elizabeth (Williams) Wilson; both natives of Pennsylvania, who were the parents of nine children, our subject, Calvin, being the third son; who, after receiving an ordinary education in the common schools of his section, began farming. He has followed his chosen occupation in this county since 1849, having acquired his fine property of 243 acres of excellent land, with all its improvements, by his own industry and energy. May 25, 1853, he married Miss Amanda M. Bowen; born in Cass County, May 1, 1831; daughter of Jeremiah Bowen, who came to Cass County in 1829; he died in 1859. Mr. Wilson and wife are the parents of seven children: Dessa M., widow of J. O. Horrom, Frank, Annie B., Herschel, Faver C., Mamie M., and Earle. He is an A., F. and A. M., and a Democrat.

JOSEPH ZIEGELMEIER, farmer; P. O. Virginia; was born in Germany, Nov. 5, 1821; son of Fatus and Barbara (Biller) Ziegelmeier, both natives of Germany; he, a miller by occupation, dying in 1875, aged about eighty years; and she dying in 1877, at about the same age; they were the parents of sixteen children, Joseph being the oldest. Our subject, at the age of twenty-one years, in Germany, was drafted into the army, where he served about five years, and in 1848 emigrated to this country, landing in New York. He first settled in Cincinnati, where he remained two years, working at the coopering trade. In 1850, he removed to Cass County, and began the coopering business in Beardstown, remaining there two years, when he removed to his present residence, and began farming upon eighty acres



of land, which he bought, since adding to the same till his farm comprises 295 acres. June 14, 1849, in Cincinnati, he married Katrina Nemiller, a native of Prussia, by whom he

has had seven children, six of whom are living: Lewis, Peter, Caroline, Barbara, Mary, Lucy.

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